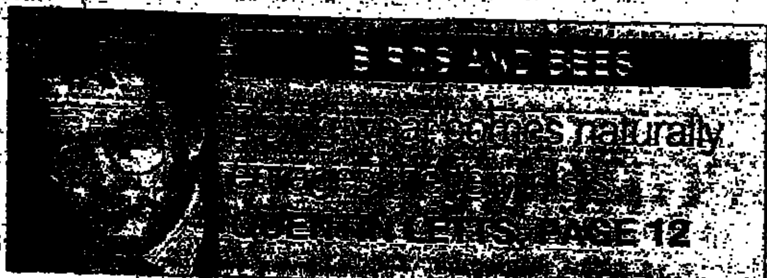

INTERFACE

Battle for virtual votes in our information technology weekly

UNCOVERGIRLS

Models told to say no to exploitation by women's magazines, **P4**

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THE TIMES

No. 65,395 WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11 1995

Portillo's defence of sovereignty wins acclaim from Major and party faithful

Tories make Europe their battleground

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

MICHAEL PORTILLO reclaimed the leadership of the Tory Right yesterday with an outspoken attack on Brussels, endorsed by the Prime Minister, which confirmed that the Conservatives will play the Euro-sceptic card at the next general election.

The Defence Secretary won ecstatic acclaim at the party conference for an unashamedly nationalist speech in which he roamed beyond his ministerial brief to defend British sovereignty and call on schools to teach the real history of heroes and bravery.

He declared that Britain would not be told by Brussels when to fight and when not to fight, that no Conservative Government would allow Britain to join a single European army, and he attacked those "sleepwalking" to a European superstate.

His speech came as leading Euro-sceptics declared a truce with the Government and as Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, gave a further signal that official policy has shifted. Mr Rifkind said the Government was prepared to be unpopular and isolated in Europe in the pursuit of British interest, and in a further move away from Brussels, he outlined his plan for a transatlantic free trade area taking in the European Union and North America.

Mr Portillo's salvo against the European Commission, a near-repeat of the performance that earnt him adulation last year, went a long way to regaining the ground he lost on the Right during the Tory leadership contest, when John Redwood challenged Mr Major and Mr Portillo stayed uneasily on the sidelines.

What was surprising was that Mr Major's friends went out of their way to promote the speech in advance and make plain that it had his approval. The Prime Minister led the prolonged applause for Mr Portillo and was the first to shake his hand afterwards.

> ❛ If there is a section of the party unimpressed by the spectacle of a politician with permed hair strutting his way into their affections on the reflected glory of real soldiers who take real risks, it was silent yesterday ❜
>
> *Matthew Parris, page 2*

It was the clearest signal that Mr Major has decided to make Tony Blair's enthusiastic European stance a general election issue and it left the Tory left looking isolated. Peter Temple-Morris, pro-European MP for Leominster, said that Mr Portillo's speech ignored the realities of the present and Britain's military history. "Brussels is castigated here, there and everywhere. But Brussels does not pretend to control our defence policy."

The unofficial pact between the Government and the Right was underlined by a series of speeches on the conference fringe. Norman Lamont turned his fire on Mr Blair, saying a Labour government could throw away Britain's independence, while Lord Tebbit suggested that shifts in the Government's position were bringing the party together. Only Mr Redwood departed from the mood of conciliation by trying to push Mr Major further than he wants to go and pledging that Britain would never join up to a single currency.

Senior MPs noted that, for all his passionate rhetoric, Mr Portillo had not stepped out of line on policy. For the moment, they suggested, Mr Major is happy to see him as the "licensed rightwinger" with Mr Redwood isolated on the fringe. For their part, the sceptics are happy to treat Labour as the main enemy after three years of civil war.

Mr Portillo went for Brussels mercilessly in his speech. He laughed off the idea of it having any part in Britain's defence, saying that it might want to "harmonise uniforms and cap badges, or even to metricate them". The European Court, he mused, would probably want to stop the army fighting for more than 40 hours a week, and send half the troops home on paternity leave. Britain would not join a single European army. "While John Major is Prime Minister, Malcolm Rifkind is at the Foreign Office and I am Defence Secretary, the foreign and defence policies of this country will not be dictated to us by a majority vote of a council of ministers."

Portillo acknowledges the applause. He wants a return to teaching history of heroes

He declared that Britain was blessed with brave soldiers, sailors and airmen, willing to give their lives — but for Britain and not for Brussels. He urged schools to teach children "the real history of heroes and bravery, of good versus evil, of freedom against tyranny. Of Nelson, Wellington and Churchill."

Mr Rifkind had earlier dismissed Labour as "babes in the wood" on Europe and said: "Either Britain will have a government that is prepared to be unpopular and occasionally isolated in defence of British interests, or it will have a government that will give in when the going gets tough."

Mr Blair last night attacked Mr Portillo's speech as an extreme, juvenile and ill-informed tirade. "Nobody is suggesting that we replace British armed forces with a European army," he said. "Mr Portillo has failed to recognise that we have had collective security in Europe through Nato for more than 40 years."

Conference, pages 6, 7
Simon Jenkins, page 16
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Former nanny tells how she was bound and beaten by Wests

By Richard Duce and Bill Frost

ROSEMARY and Frederick West abducted a teenage hitch-hiker and subjected her to a protracted and violent sex ordeal, occasionally breaking off to give her cups of tea, Winchester Crown Court was told yesterday.

Caroline Owens, now 39, said she was taken to the Wests' home at 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester, gagged with sticky tape and assaulted by the couple while lying bound and gagged on a mattress. The prosecution claims that the attack on the Wests' former nanny was a blueprint for a series of killings to follow.

Mrs Owens was remarkably composed as she relived her night of "terror and panic" on December 6, 1972, when she had just turned 17. She had stopped working for the Wests as a nanny and was hitch-hiking from Tewkesbury to her home in Cinderford, Gloucestershire, after seeing her boyfriend.

The Wests pulled up in their grey Ford Popular and offered her a lift. Mrs Owens said: "Rose got out and pulled the seat forward and said 'I'll sit in the back so I can have a chat with Caroline.' They said that they wanted to know how I was getting on and they missed me and the children missed me. As we left Gloucester they started talking to me in a smutty manner. Rosemary had her arm around the back of me and she started touching my breasts.

"I think that is when Fred said 'What's her tits like?' She was trying to grab hold of me and grinning and laughing. Not a nice laugh. She tried to grab me between the legs.

"I was struggling with her. It was getting a bit out of hand. I was panicking. They were saying things to each other. I can't remember in detail. It was smutty. Talking about me and about my body. Fred pulled up onto a grass verge near a gate to a farm field. She was still trying to touch me. He turned around in his seat and started punching me around the head. He was calling me names, 'Bitch' and that."

She said she was punched around the head three times and lost consciousness. "When I came round my arms had been tied around me with a scarf and they were putting tape around my head over my mouth." She said the tape was brownish and gummy but she was still able to breathe through her nose. "Rose was holding me and Fred was putting the tape round."

Caroline Owens: was gagged with sticky tape

Mr Leveson asked: "What was your reaction?" Mrs Owen said: "Terror, panic." She said she could not open her mouth even though she had tried. Mr Leveson said: "Had you any idea what was going to happen to you?" She replied: "Not really. I didn't think I was going to go home again."

She was driven to Cromwell

Continued on page 3, col 1

Workfare scheme to cut welfare bill

By Nicholas Wood, Chief Political Correspondent

JOHN MAJOR is set to announce an expansion of workfare-style schemes to curb long-term unemployment and to ease pressures on the spiralling social security bill.

The proposal is being given serious consideration for inclusion in the Prime Minister's speech to the Tory conference in Blackpool on Friday. It will be seen as one concrete result of the review of the welfare state under way in Whitehall and the Downing Street policy unit.

The workfare principle — that benefits depend on claimants taking up state-subsidised jobs or training places — has been embraced by ministers. The job seeker's allowance, which comes into effect next year, will require claimants to show they have been actively seeking work. Jobcentre staff will have the power to cut or withdraw benefits if people refuse to cooperate.

Ministers played down this aspect of the legislation for fear of stoking up opposition when the Job Seekers Bill went through Parliament earlier in the year. Mr Major is expected to put renewed impetus behind the workfare principle and to announce that pilot schemes aimed at getting the jobless back to work will be expanded or put on a national footing.

The Prime Minister has also been studying proposals which would require single mothers with school-age children to make themselves available for work if they want to claim benefits. A number of pilot schemes for unemployed people aged 18-24 and without a job for a year or more have been tried. They include Workstart, under which employers are paid a state subsidy of £60 a week for six months for taking on such a worker and £30 a week for the next six months.

Mr Major hinted at a tougher approach to welfare in his speech to Tory agents on Monday night in Blackpool. He said: "This party will never turn a blind eye to those less well off in society, but won't patronise them either. Enterprise and liberty are core Conservative principles — as are responsibility and self-help."

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France in chaos as 5m strike

A 24-hour strike by France's five million public employees closed schools, post offices and most public transport, plunging France into a commuter chaos. The strike, uniting seven unions for the first time in a decade, was launched to protest at a wage freeze planned by the Government of Prime Minister Alain Juppé.

With most buses and trains standing idle, and the Paris Métro running at a fraction of its full capacity, millions of French workers were forced to walk to and from work or sit in vast traffic jams. But a poll released by *Le Parisien* found that 57 per cent of the population supported the strike and only 26 per cent opposed it .... Page 11

Sarajevo comes back to life

A ceasefire in Bosnia-Herzegovina, delayed by 24 hours, was expected to be in place by midnight last night, although heavy fighting continued yesterday. The peace momentum took a rapid step forward when gas and electricity supplies began in Sarajevo.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday that London would host a conference to discuss a comprehensive peace settlement........ Page 13

Cambridge picks a winner with a professor of the turf

By David Charter, Education Correspondent

CAMBRIDGE University will today unite "turf and gown" by appointing the country's first professor of race horse breeding.

William Allen, a world expert in horse fertility, will use the chair to rear a new generation of champion racers. Dr Allen, whose clients include top breeder Sheikh Mohammed, will teach trainee vets pioneering techniques to give British stables the edge. One of the biggest breeding problems is keeping mares of champions producing foals into their old age.

Students will be able to learn from Dr Allen's work with thoroughbreds such as Dancing Brave, winner of the 2,000 Guineas in 1986. The horse went on to sire Commander In Chief, the 1993 Derby winner, after Dr Allen helped it to recover from a serious illness.

He will maintain his links with Sheikh Mohammed, giving trainee vets the chance to study in Dubai.

Dr Allen a 55-year-old Cambridge graduate from New Zealand, said: "We have assisted in establishing a camel reproduction laboratory in Dubai and I already have a research student there helping with raising racing camels".

Dr Allen is currently director of the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association equine fertility unit at Newmarket. He will divide his time between the unit and the university when he is named today as the inaugural Jim Joel Professor of Equine Reproduction.

William Allen, Professor of Equine Reproduction

The chair, worth £650,000 over ten years, is funded by £150,000 from the TBA and £500,000 from the Childwick Trust. The late Mr Joel, a South African diamond merchant and horse breeder, set up the trust to distribute his fortune to a range of good causes including disabled people, the aged and horse racing.

Students will spend several weeks at a time at the unit, set in 114 acres on the edge the Duke of Sutherland's Stetchworth Estate, learning to use an ultra-sound scanner developed to check horse pregnancies.

Dr Allen also has his own pedigree in the world of racing. Frankie Dettori, the champion jockey, is his daughter's boyfriend.

Success at the bookmakers, however, is not likely to be a by-product for hard-up students from the new link. Dr Allen said: "I never pass tips on — not because it is unethical, but because I am a bad gambler and I always seem to pick the wrong ones".

He added: "This is a unique joining of turf and gown. At long last in this country students are going to start specialising during their undergraduate vet training which has not been possible in the past. I hope we will turn out superior specialist vets which is important to the horse-breeding industry because it is a major unsung earner of overseas funds."

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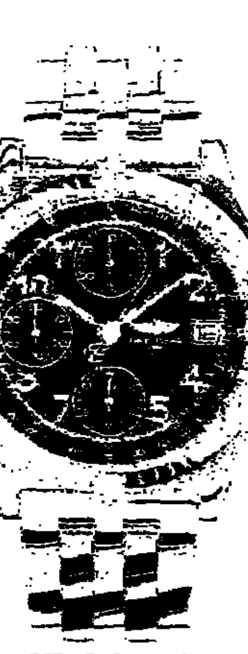

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Portillo eschews gravitas and swoops to conquer

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

"WHO dares wins!" cried Michael Portillo in what can only be seen as a coded message of support for John Redwood's bid for leadership of the Tory Right. In a vulgar speech, largely devoid of content, Mr Portillo wowed Tory representatives here in Blackpool by declaring in his gruffest voice that a Conservative government would never do a number of things nobody had ever suggested a Conservative government would ever dream of doing anyway.

The conference loved it, cheering and stamping. If there is a section of the party unimpressed by the spectacle of a politician with permed hair strutting his way into their affections on the reflected glory of real soldiers who take real risks, it was silent yesterday.

Mr Portillo took no risks. The more blood a Tory speaker brings into his speech, the less of his own he risks. I remember the Michael Portillo I used to know and ask myself whether this new Portillo has honestly come to believe all this guff, or whether he knows it's guff, but says it anyway. It is debatable which would be more chilling.

The Tories' new logo this year seemed to glow behind Mr Portillo. Conference-goers are calling it "the whoosh!", and it seems to be based on those Union Jack arrows marching over the Continent in *Dad's Army*. The Tory arrow curls and swoops upwards in a gravity-defying whoosh! like Mr Portillo's hair. The Portillo lip is also beginning to do this. Even the Portillo gaze keeps lifting as he hears the trumpets. It is as if the whole Portillo persona teeters on the point of lift-off, ready for whoosh! The Defence Secretary must find the persistence of gravity in his political career immensely tiresome.

The Foreign Secretary made an altogether different speech, not an hour before Mr Portillo. Malcolm Rifkind was urbane, literate, careful and a trifle dull. He trod carefully over the European minefield, delighting few, angering few, and on the whole avoiding saying anything silly. He failed to make an exhibition of himself, and therefore, in conference terms, failed.

Eschewing theatricality, he was received with a crouching ovation.

People will therefore say that Mr Rifkind is not a "communicator", but his speech harked back to an era when audiences could tolerate dryness, could appreciate why some things were best left unsaid, counted circumspection a virtue in politics, and did not demand that every speech be a religious or sexual experience.

Watching Tony Blair last week, and Michael Portillo yesterday, it struck me that a modern political audience expects to be masturbated by its speakers. Portillo knows this. It is rather unsavoury.

Equally sinister is the new party chairman, Dr Brian Mawhinney. Dr Mawhinney comes over as a 1990s version of the child-grabber in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Someone has told him to smile more often and the effect freezes the blood. Mawhinney is a powerful speaker, a wonderful sneerer, and so deadly a communicator of unarticulated menace that, should he tire of politics, he could walk straight into any of a dozen Pinter roles or get a top job as a police interrogator. This man can say, "from the bottom of my heart" (he did yesterday) in a way that has every male in his audience moving instinctively to protect our groins.

The speech chilled rather than rallied. Outside the hall a kiosk is selling "Ice Cold Slush". So was Mawhinney. "I will skip quickly over the Liberals," he sneered, "like the rest of the country." And like Alan Howarth.

☐ The following from a motion submitted by Sheffield Attercliffe Tories: "... *capital punishment for the murder of children, castration for repeat offenders* ..."

Private schools to seek greater role in the community

By John O'Leary, Education Editor

THE headmasters of leading independent schools promised yesterday to open their doors to more pupils from low-income families, no matter which party won the next general election.

Hugh Wright, chairman of the Headmasters' Conference (HMC), appealed to ministers to expand the assisted places scheme, which supports 30,000 pupils whose families cannot afford independent education. But he told members at a meeting in Dublin that independent schools could also work with a Labour government.

Mr Wright, a chief master of King Edward's School, Birmingham, said he did not expect to talk Labour out of abolishing assisted places. But he added: "New Labour is looking at independent schools in a new way."

The conference, which includes many of the most famous schools among its 240 members, has begun talks with David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary. Mr Wright said: "We have told Labour: 'If you take away the assisted places scheme, we would like to explore with you ways in which other bridges can be built', and we find that they are very interested in discussing this."

Labour has assured the Headmasters' Conference that no policy has been agreed on independent education beyond the commitment to phase out assisted places. The threat to the schools' charitable status has not been removed but Labour is anxious to pursue a dialogue on extending the use of facilities by local communities.

Mr Wright offered to extend the use of the facilities of Headmasters' Conference schools but added that he hoped local authorities would buy places in independent education "by whatever means and in whatever new way can be devised". He said: "It is surely in everyone's interest that our schools should be available to as many in the community as possible."

Mr Blunkett said later that he did not expect local authorities to take up the offer on a wide scale. "We are happy to discuss partnership with the independent sector, which enables the whole community to have greater access to sporting and other facilities," he said. "However, while we will be happy to discuss any proposals that the HMC may have, we do not favour any alternative to the assisted places scheme."

The headmasters may have more success with their appeal to the Government. Ministers have been discussing an expansion of the assisted places scheme and there might be an announcement at the Conservative Party conference today.

Mr Wright said independent schools would not expect the level of support for each pupil to be increased. The cost of expansion would be minimal because the beneficiaries would otherwise have to be educated in state schools. Estimates agreed with the Department of Education and Employment suggest there is little difference in costs per head, especially in sixth forms.

The HMC has put no figure on its appeal for more places. Most of the 30,000 existing places have been filled this year. Mr Wright said: "Independent schools by their history, traditions, and present contribution to the community are an integral part of the national education system in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, and not peripheral to it. I say to all politicians of all parties that you cannot afford to be without us."

TONY WHITE

Judge John Altman, centre, and other members of the tribunal prepare for the live video link to Chicago

Tribunal hears evidence by satellite

By Tim Jones

AN AMERICAN company director made legal history yesterday when she became the first witness to give evidence to an industrial tribunal via a transatlantic satellite link.

Martha Wilke Murray sat in her office in Chicago more than 3,000 miles away as she gave evidence in the case of Keith Pickavance, a senior member of her company's London office, who is accused of sexual harassment. The tribunal, which moved from Croydon in south London to the City offices of a law firm so that the video link could be made, heard claims by Patricia Bessey, 35, of alleged sexual harassment by Mr Pickavance while she worked as a senior consultant for Peterson Consultants.

She said she had refused to go away on a golfing weekend with Mr Pickavance because of sexual implications and that she was then given a dead-end job. Miss Bessey, of southwest London, said that Mr Pickavance, who is in his early 50s, had suggested to her a couple of times that she needed a man and should consider an older man.

She also felt uncomfortable with his jokes after a trip with him to the Henley regatta when she had been forced to buy a longer skirt. She added that a birthday card faxed to her hotel in the United States was signed by everyone in the London office "and specially Keith".

Mrs Murray said Miss Bessey had complained to her about his abrasive manner and dictatorial style. "There were no examples of sexual harassment of any examples that I could view," she said.

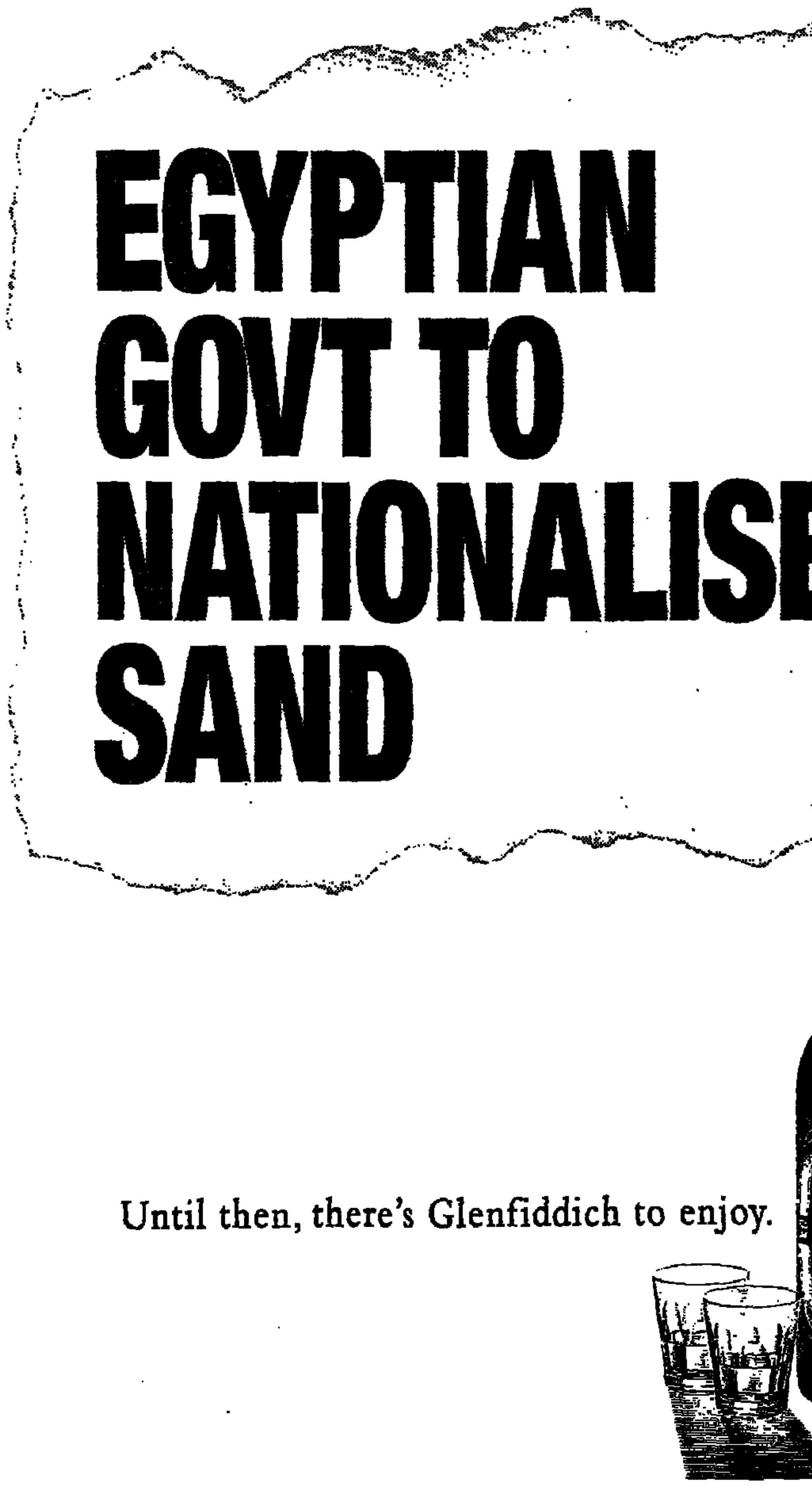
Patricia Bessey: says she was sexually harassed

Mr Pickavance denied harassment and said he had once had to admonish Miss Bessey for having arranged a birthday party stripper to perform in the office at 10am.

The distance caused a slight time delay before Mrs Murray, vice president of Peterson Consultants, a firm of damage assessors, could hear what was being asked of her. A link to Chicago enabled Mrs Murray to see her questioners, witnesses and the press.

Judge John Altman, the tribunal chairman said the decision to use the video link had been taken following a recent report by Lord Woolf which advised technology could keep down escalating legal costs. He said: "We are making use of the video link by satellite becaue of the enormous expense of bringing the witness to London."

The tribunal continues tomorrow.



EGYPTIAN GOVT TO NATIONALISE SAND

Until then, there's Glenfiddich to enjoy.

BBC attacked after delaying news for Mawhinney speech

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

THE BBC was at the centre of a political row yesterday after it delayed the *One O'Clock News* on BBC1 by nine minutes to make way for a conference speech by the Tory party chairman Brian Mawhinney.

The move prompted an angry letter to John Birt, the BBC Director-General, from John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, demanding to know why the corporation had "caved in to Tory pressure".

Describing Dr Mawhinney's speech as a "pathetic piece of not very amusing and not very effective knockabout", Mr Prescott said: "The idea that such a speech should be the lead item, followed by another interview with Mawhinney, is just a big joke."

The BBC responded by reminding Mr Prescott that it dropped two of its hourly television news bulletins last week to make way first for Tony Blair's conference address on Tuesday and then for Mr Prescott's own speech on Friday.

A BBC spokesman said that the decision to delay yesterday's *One O'Clock News* had been taken on editorial grounds, adding that it had not been contacted by anyone in the Conservative Party. The delay in the news had been signalled to viewers by an on-screen message.

The spokesman said: "The BBC is committed to extensive live coverage of the main party conferences as part of its public service role. The decision to delay the start of the *One O'Clock News* by a few minutes was made when Dr Mawhinney's keynote speech overran because of an earlier technical problem in the conference hall." It is understood there had been problems with the autocue.

Spin battles, page 23

Computer delay likely to upset rail schedules

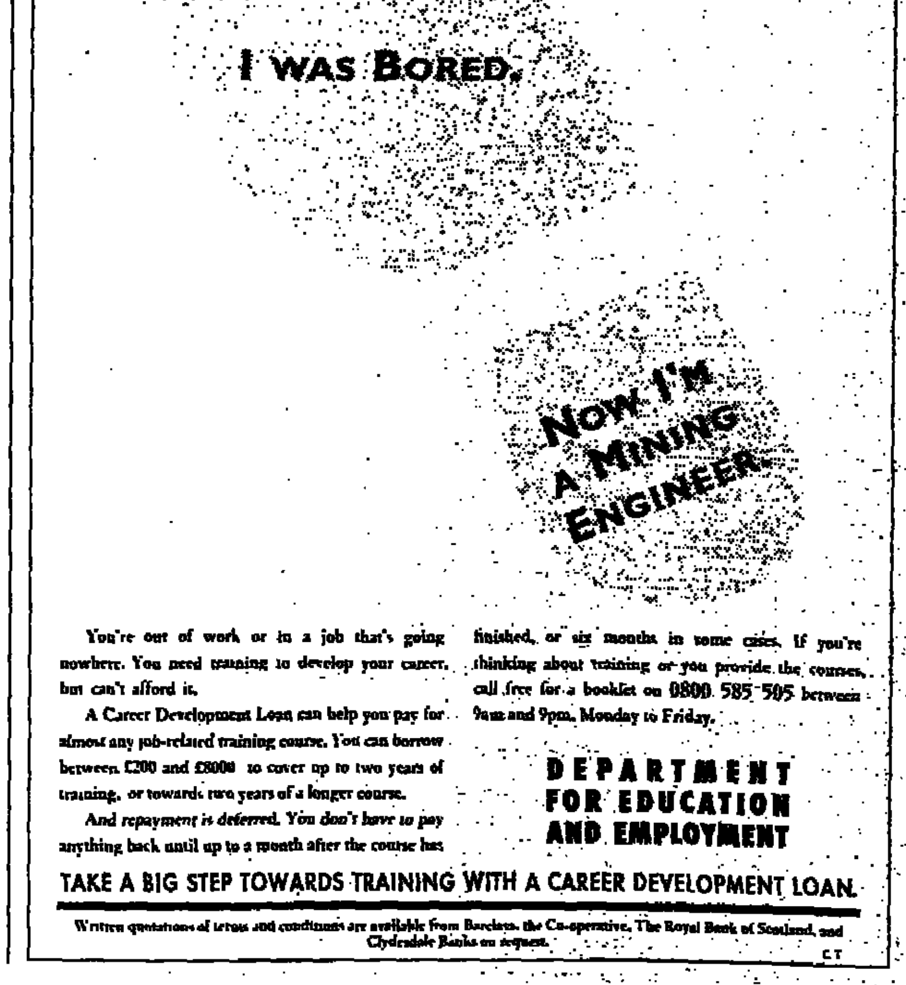
By Jonathan Prynn

A COMPUTER system developed by Railtrack to co-ordinate train schedules across the network after privatisation will not be ready for the sell-off next spring.

The delay has forced Railtrack to fall back on British Rail's existing system in the months leading up to the first sale of passenger franchises. However, the current BR software is not designed to cope with competition between rival operators and it is feared that the setback could trigger a timetable fiasco in May that will dwarf last month's problems with the winter schedules.

Computer experts believe Railtrack massively underestimated the complexity of the software needed to cope with 25 competing companies after the break-up of the industry.

Under the old system the divisions of BR agreed when trains would move around the network. However, Tony Collins, of *Computer Weekly*, says that as the 25 operating companies prepare for privatisation, they are becoming increasingly secretive.



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Arrested supporter linked to neo-Nazis

An England football supporter arrested before tonight's match with Norway is thought to be linked with a British neo-Nazi group.

The man was one of nine Britons held with a Dane at Sarpsborg as they left a train from Denmark. "We believe one of the Britons is linked with Combat 18," an Oslo police chief said. A political banner was found in the Dane's luggage. Combat 18 violence caused the abandonment of the last England away game, against Ireland in February.

Three other Britons were expelled after being stopped at Fornebu airport, Oslo, after flying from Newcastle upon Tyne.

Home burial

Lord Home of the Hirsel, who died on Monday aged 92, will be buried on Saturday at a private ceremony near his home, his family said. The former Conservative Prime Minister will be laid to rest in the family plot at Lennel cemetery at Coldstream, Borders, next to his wife, Elizabeth, who died in 1990, and his father, the 13th Earl of Home.

Tourist gored

A British tourist was recovering from severe internal injuries last night after being charged by an elephant in a Zimbabwe game park. Caroline Suckley, 30, from Shropshire, was tossed into the air and gored while taking photographs in the Mana Pools reserve on the Zambezi river. A guide scared off the elephant and Ms Suckley was rushed to hospital in Harare.

Mortgage deal

A building society that rejected a pensioner's request for a mortgage has backed down after apparent pressure from David Curry, the Housing Minister. Margie Gibbs, 71, had been refused a £10,500 loan to buy her council house in Chapeltown, Leeds, after the Bradford and Bingley said it was "in an inner-city area associated with prostitution and drug abuse".

Road challenge

Seven asthmatic children from Trafalgar Road, Greenwich, southeast London, have been given leave to challenge their council's decision not to close the road during times of high pollution. Mr Justice Popplewell granted leave for judicial review after deciding the matter was "just about capable of being argued" while voicing concern as to where the traffic would go.

Heap of history

A slag heap at Merthyr Tydfil is to be saved for posterity as a monument to the local iron and coal industry after the Welsh Secretary upheld a compulsory purchase order by Mid Glamorgan County Council. The owner of the land had planned to sell the spoil as hard core for roads but now the council is to develop a heritage walk by the heap.

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Former nanny was bound, gagged and assaulted

Continued from page 1

Street and taken into a first-floor front room where she saw what was either a double mattress or bed on the floor. Mr Leveson asked: "Did either of them say anything." She replied: "Fred said if I was good he would take the tape off and he cut the tape." She said that the knife was double-bladed and that Mr West apologised after cutting her slightly by the ear.

"They sat me on the sofa and Rose sat next to me and started trying to kiss me. She was touching my breast. I said 'Get off, leave me alone.' She just continued. It was then that Rose went and made some cups of tea."

Asked if she had a cup, she replied yes. She was then untied and undressed. "They tied my hands back up again and gagged me with cotton wool. They put me on the bed on my back. I was blindfolded and Rose got undressed."

Mr Leveson asked: "What did you feel?" Mrs Owens said: "It was like being examined in my genital area.

"Fred got a leather belt and Rose held my feet while Fred beat me between the legs." She said she could see the belt but could not remember whether she was still wearing a blindfold. She said she was hit about ten times with the buckle.

"Rose did oral sex on me. I don't know if I was being held or not. Fred was watching then he took his clothes off and got behind Rose and started to have sex with her at the same time."

She said this went on for some ten minutes. Mr Leveson asked: "How were you feeling about all this?" Mrs Owens replied: "I felt sick and scared. It is as if you can't believe it is happening."

She said Mrs West then went to the bathroom and while she was away Mr West had sexual intercourse with her for a few seconds. The Wests then went to sleep, leaving her still undressed, bound and gagged. "I tried to get to the window but I couldn't lift it.

"In the early hours of the morning there was a knock at the door and Mr West went downstairs. I tried to make a noise to get this person's attention and Rose held a pillow over my head. They were angry with me for trying to make a noise.

"When Fred came back he told me he would keep me in the cellar and let his black friends use me and when he finished with me they would bury me under the paving stones of Gloucester.

"He said that there were hundreds of girls there and police wouldn't find them. I was scared, frightened to death. I just kept thinking of my mum."

She said she was made more cups of tea and when Mrs West went to see to her children she was raped by Mr West. "I started crying; he said he was sorry. Before I had a bath they both asked me to go back and live with them. I was amazed really; I thought this would be my chance to get away from them.

"I said I would have to go home and get my stuff and would come back. They said not to tell anybody." Mrs Owens said she had at least two baths to get the sticky glue from the tape out of her hair. Mr West later dropped both his wife and Mrs Owens at a laundrette. She stayed there for a moment and then "I just left. I just kept walking."

On the outskirts of Gloucester she noticed a friend's brother and accepted a lift from him. She was taken to the home of a friend where she told how she had been attacked and then went home. "I went upstairs to bed and hid under the covers."

After speaking to her mother she called the police. Mr and Mrs West were arrested and admitted charges of indecent assault and actual bodily harm. Both were fined. They were not charged with rape.

Mr West was found dead in his prison cell on last New Year's Day and his wife is on trial for ten alleged murders. The prosecution claims that many of the victims were the subjects of "appalling and depraved" sexual violence before they were killed, dismembered and buried beneath the house at Cromwell Street.

Earlier in her evidence, Mrs Owens told how she had first met Mr and Mrs West in the autumn of 1972 when they picked her up hitch-hiking from Tewkesbury. They offered her a job as nanny, which she accepted after the Wests had met her mother and father.

She told the court that during her six weeks at Cromwell Street she was paid about £4 a week. At first she had enjoyed working for the Wests. However, the couple began to argue and she decided to leave.

The trial continues.

Rosemary West, top, watching as Caroline Owens is examined by Brian Leveson, QC, at Winchester Crown Court yesterday. The judge is Mr Justice Mantell

Frederick West 'boasted of cellar torture room'

By Bill Frost
and Richard Duce

ROSEMARY WEST'S husband boasted laughingly to a friend and neighbour that he planned to turn the cellar of 25 Cromwell Street into a torture chamber as the Wests gave the neighbour a guided tour of the house, Winchester Crown Court was told yesterday.

Elizabeth Agius, who was fighting back tears when she first entered the witness box, said the Wests had also told her of their journeys from Gloucester to London and Bristol in search of teenage "virgins". Frederick West told her in the presence of his wife that they "preferred runaways" because they had nowhere to go. "He said it was easier to pick them up with Rose in the car as young girls thought it was safe."

Once ensnared, the girls would be encouraged to live with the Wests and "go on the game", she said. She described the couple as "really close", hiding nothing from each other.

Mrs Agius first met Mr West after moving into a flat in Midland Road, Gloucester, during the autumn of 1971. He invited her to meet his wife and the friendship grew. Later, however, when Mrs Agius first introduced Mr West to her husband, Mr West became angry and jealous. He told her in front of his wife that Mr Agius belonged six feet underground.

Mrs Agius baby-sat for the Wests twice soon after meeting them. "On the second occasion they came back late, the small hours of the morning," she told the court. She asked them if they had been "somewhere nice". Mr West replied: "No, we only went driving around looking for young girls."

"If he could get a young girl between 15 and 17, hopefully she would be a virgin and he could get more money as a virgin. They had the opportunity to come to live with them and be on the game if they wanted to."

Later Mrs West told her that she was acting as a prostitute and that her husband liked to listen and watch everything she did. He used to watch through a hole in the wall. "Rose told me that if he wasn't there, she would tell him exactly what happened."

Mr West was always joking about sex and made a series of passes at her, Mrs Agius said. On a number of occasions Mrs West indicated strongly that she would relish "three-in-a-bed" sex.

Mr West also began suggesting bondage sessions: "He used to say he'd like to get me in bed, tie me up and do all sorts of things to me. He said I could tie him up too and do what I liked with him."

Before the Wests moved to Cromwell Street they showed Mrs Agius around their new home. "I saw the cellar — you got down through a flap which you lifted up. Fred said it would be a good playroom for the children. Then he said: 'I would like to make this my torture room.'" Mrs Agius did not take the remark seriously.

Richard Ferguson, QC, for the defence, suggested that there was neither a trapdoor nor steps to the cellar when Mrs Agius was first shown around the house, saying they were not installed until 1975. She insisted that she clearly remembered a trapdoor.

Mr Ferguson asked: "By the time you came to tell the police about this, you had been reading the press?" Mrs Agius replied: "I don't read no papers, it don't interest me."

Asked if she had gone to the press with her story, she said: "*The Sun* is the only newspaper I have been in touch with, but I have been paid nothing by *The Sun*.

"I kept phoning the police and they kept saying 'We are very busy, we will get back in contact with you.' I asked *The Sun* if they could help me get in contact with the police."

Mrs Agius said she had received cheques for £750 each from two television companies for interviews about her memories of the Wests. She believed the first was from ITV and the second the BBC.

Rosemary West has denied murdering nine girls and a young woman, among them her own daughter. The alleged victims are Charmaine West, Heather West, Shirley-Anne Robinson, Shirley Hubbard, Therese Siegenthaler, Lynda Gough, Carol Cooper, Lucy Partington, Juanita Mott and Alison Chambers.

Mrs Agius: said Wests made passes at her

Letters reveal the passion of couple's relationship

IN LETTERS sent to her husband while he was in prison in 1971, Rosemary West wrote that her stepdaughter Charmaine, eight, "liked to be handled rough". The girl's remains were discovered in a shallow grave at the couple's flat 23 years later.

The three letters were recovered from the attic of 25 Cromwell Street, Winchester Crown Court was told. They display the passionate nature of the couple's relationship. West, who was serving a short term at an open prison after being convicted on dishonesty offences, refers to himself as "your ever worshipping husband".

The first letter, dated May 4, 1971, was from Mrs West to her husband: "To my darling, what was you on about at the beginning of your letter. I just can't make it out.

"Hey love, that's great, three more visits — it will take half the time I have got to wait for you. The blinking tax people get on my nerves.

"Darling, about Charm. I think she likes to be handled rough. But darling, why do I have to be the one to do it. I would keep her for her sake if it wasn't for the rest of the children. You can see Charm coming out in Anna [another stepdaughter] now.

"I think love, I don't think God wants me to go to that dance. Darling, I think from now on I am going to let God guide me. It always ends up that way anyway as you know.

"Oh, love, about our son. I will see the doctor about the pill and then we will be able to decide about it when you come home. Well, love, keep happy, longing for the 18th, your ever worshipping wife Rose."

The second letter, on prison notepaper, was dated May 14, 1971. "To my darling wife Rose . . .

"Darling, you forgot to write again . . . I have put your assisted prison visits form for the 18th and 19th and for the 15th of June. It won't be long before the 24th. So get the pill if you want it.

"I love you darling, for ever my love. Well darling, until I see you, all my love I send to you, your ever worshipping husband Fred."

The third, from Mrs West and dated May 22, 1971, has the words "from now until for ever" written at the top.

"To my dearest lover, darling I am sorry I upset you in my previous letters. I didn't mean it, no joking.

"I know you love me, darling. But it just seems queer that anyone should think so much of me . . .

"We have got a lot of things to do in the next couple of years. We will do it just loving each other. Better not write too much in case I put my big foot in it ha ha!"

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Agency director accuses fashion journalists of promoting sexual exploitation

Models reject appeal to boycott magazines

By Lin Jenkins
and Leyla Linton

LEADING *fashion models are being urged to boycott some best-selling women's magazines in a campaign against their allegedly explicit sexual content.*

Laraine Ashton, managing director of IMG Models, has launched an attack against increasingly erotic photography and the obsession with sex in certain titles. She said they were "filth" fit only for the top shelves of news stands alongside pornographic magazines.

Miss Ashton, 49, a *former model, said she would like to be able to ban her models from working for magazines such as Cosmopolitan, Company, Marie Claire,* and *Dazed and Confused.*

"We do not need to read 'How to have 15 orgasms' on the front cover of these magazines ... *It is not right to say that Cosmo has been doing it for so long that it is acceptable.*"

Her criticism was rejected by the magazines and models, who said it was unfair and untrue that anyone was being exploited. But Miss Ashton, who represents American model Lauren Hutton, Tyra Banks and the rising star Jodie Kidd, *believes models are being exploited in the battle for sales.* "To have a girl and boy in a *state of undress simulating* sex is gruesome, as is driving past a bus stop and seeing a couple licking ice cream off each other. A nude scene in the shower would be okay, but there has to be a line drawn somewhere."

She denounced *Dazed and Confused*, which features a topless girl licking a bloody axe, as "rubbish not art" and *Marie Claire* for "writing about sex aids". She said, in an interview in the *Evening Standard* yesterday, that she would want men to be involved in the debate and make their views known.

Jenny Barnett, deputy editor of *Marie Claire*, said the criticism was unfair. "I think she is confusing magazines. She talks about *Marie Claire* as being one of the magazines she is disillusioned with but a lot of what she talks about is not connected to us. Our fashion pictures are not violent images or overtly sexual and a story about 15 orgasms would not appear in our magazine."

She said the magazine enjoyed a good relationship with IMG Models. It recently ran an interview with Lauren Hutton, often used the agency's models and would continue to do so.

National Magazine Company, publishers of *Cosmopolitan* and *Company*, said neither title wished to comment on the remarks. Rankin Waddell, publisher of *Dazed and Confused*, who took over the title in April, said he classified the magazine as an art, music and fashion magazine and not in the mainstream of women's titles.

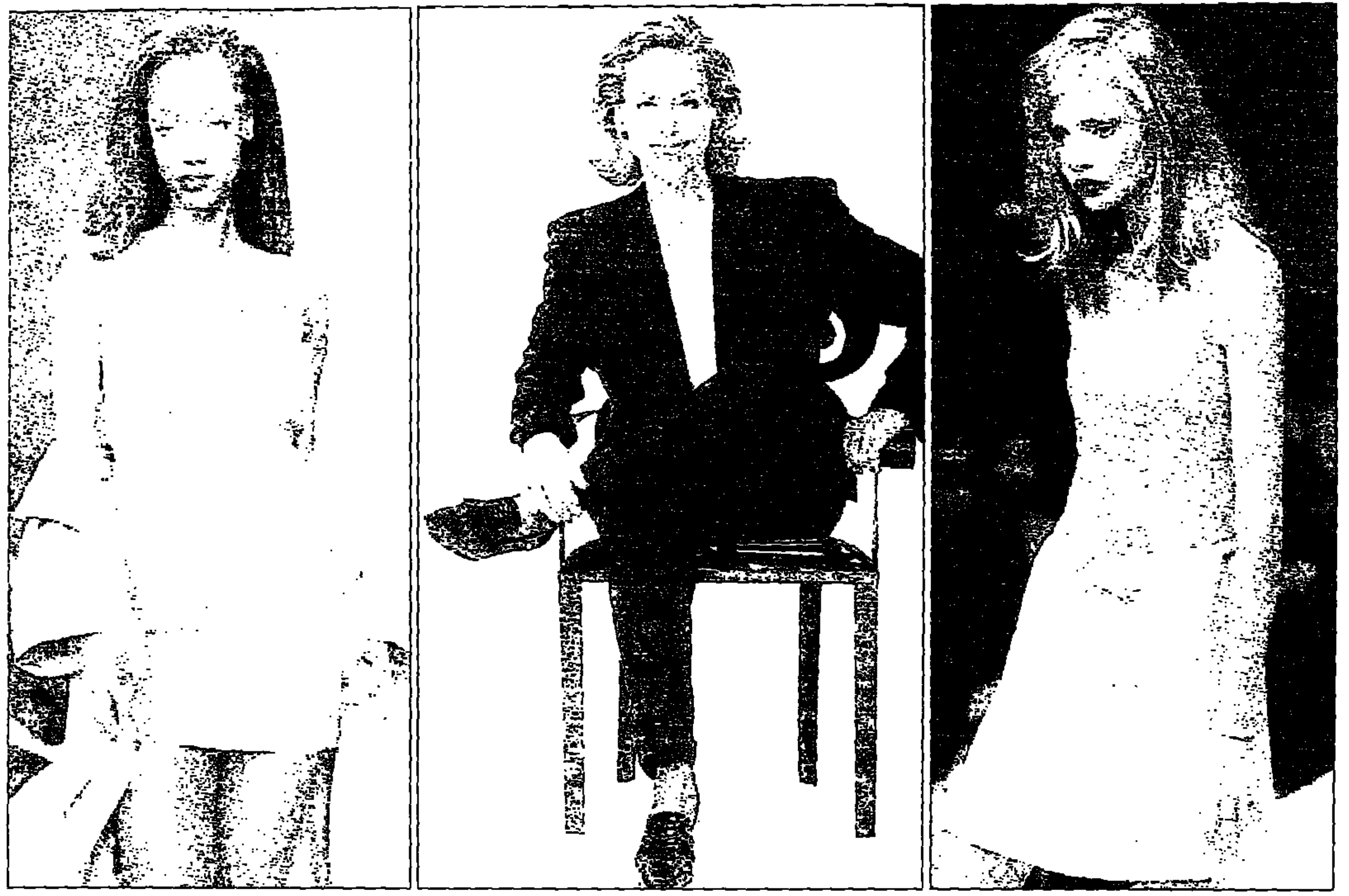
"We are surprised to be lumped with them. Our fashion stories are art projects. We are seen as a magazine models should work for because we are at the cutting edge of fashion shots." He said the magazine tried to get away from stereotypes and not make women feel insecure about their looks by promoting a perfect type.

Carole White, managing director of Elite Premier, which has Naomi Campbell, Claudia Schiffer and Cindy Crawford among models on its books, said: "I really do not understand Laraine Ashton's comments about the mainstream magazines. They *have a pretty tame readership. I do not agree that the magazines* are trying to exploit the girls sexually. It is just the fashion. A few years ago the look was androgenous, but now that is changed and it is much more voluptuous.

"It is the job of the model to portray the style and in general the girls enjoy the fashion now, they enjoy *showing their bodies.*" *Ms White said, however, that* her company had complained to IPC and National Magazines about risqué headlines on covers.

Sarah Doukas, managing director of Storm, which represents Kate Moss, said: "I cannot see that fashion in a magazine is exploitative. The pictures in *Dazed and Confused* are a bit cutting edge, but that is up to the girls. *They are able-bodied girls over the age of consent.*"

Amanda Lamb, 22, a model for Storm who appears in a television advertisement for Scottish Widows, has recently worked for *Dazed and Confused*. "You are given a choice. Nobody is exploited unless they want to be."


Laraine Ashton, centre, who represents models Tyra Banks, left, and Jodie Kidd, right, says the erotic content of women's magazines is filth

Media, page 23

Morale of the Armed Forces 'jeopardised by homosexuals'

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

THE Government's decision to ban homosexuals from the Armed Forces was based on a rational judgment "born of experience", the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

The ban was justified because of the risk homosexuals and lesbians posed to the morale and effectiveness of the services, and it was not *open to legal challenge. On the* second day of the hearing into the case of four former service personnel discharged for being homosexual, Stephen Richards, appearing for Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, dismissed the charge that the policy was absurd, irrational and "impossible to justify". Mr Richards said the difficulties of allowing homosexuals to serve in the forces had been vigorously debated across the world.

In the United States, he said, General Norman Schwarzkopf, the American joint commander of the coalition forces in the Gulf War, testified in a New York case that "the introduction of an open homosexual into a small unit immediately polarises that unit".

The former US General Colin Powell, who was Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Gulf War, also said that "the presence of open homosexuality would have an unacceptable, detrimental and disruptive impact on the cohesion, morale and *esprit* of the Armed Forces".

The appeal against dismissal has been brought by former Lieutenant-Commander Duncan Lustig-Prean, 36, former RAF Sergeant Graeme Grady, 32, ex-RAF nurse Jeanette Smith, 28, and former Royal Navy weapons engineer John Beckett, 25.

A previous appeal to the High Court failed, although one of the judges, Lord Justice Simon Brown, said he thought the policy was doomed as "the tide of history" was against the MoD.

The four former service personnel are asking the appeal judges, Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, sitting with Lord Justice Henry and Mr Justice Thorpe, to rule that the High Court was wrong in law and to order the ban to be scrapped.

Mr Richards said the policy had received careful and repeated examination by successive ministers and parliamentary select committees over a number of years. He told the court that if there was evidence that problems could arrive which could put military effectiveness at risk "then that is a sufficient foundation for the policy".

A view had properly been take, he said, that the matter could be dealt with only "on a blanket basis with hard and fast rules to prevent such problems arising in the first place".

The hearing continues today.

Brothers go free as witness changes testimony

By A Staff Reporter

THE trial of two brothers accused of supplying the Ecstasy that killed a grammar school pupil collapsed yesterday.

Richard and James Myring walked free from court after the main prosecution witness in their trial suddenly came to their defence. David Lesley *had been jailed for contempt of court* by Judge John Slack on Monday after failing to turn up for the first day of the trial at Aylesbury Crown Court. After spending the night in the cells he went into the witness box and refused to agree with the statement he gave to police at the time, alleging that James Myring, 18, had been handing out the drug.

Mr Lesley, 23, *told the jury that he had* bought Ecstasy not from James Myring but from "some black guy" in the Mirage nightclub in Windsor. When asked why he had changed his story, Mr Lesley said: "I was scared, I wanted to get out of the place. They [the police] kept saying that I was the one who would be put down in the end. They said I was implicated in the charges as well."

James Myring and his *brother Richard, 21,* were freed after the judge directed the jury to return formal not-guilty verdicts on each of the four counts of supplying a Class A drug. Judge Slack said: "I discharge both defendants because this case has, in a word, collapsed ... There has been the possibility of some intimidation and the possibility of some young people closing ranks in a misguided attempt to protect their friends and associates. *There are those who will have a thoroughly understandable and justifiable feeling that* justice has not been done."

The brothers had been accused of supplying Ecstasy to Andrew Diment, 17, of Maidenhead, who collapsed at the Mirage club early on September 25 last year. He died in hospital soon afterwards. He had allegedly been given the Ecstasy after a rendezvous outside a pub before going to the Mirage.

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Policewomen jailed for supplying their friends with drugs

By A Staff Reporter

TWO policewomen who admitted possessing and supplying drugs were jailed for 12 months yesterday.

Sentencing constables Elizabeth Hartley and Liza Wilkinson, both 25, Judge Wickham, the Recorder of Liverpool, said: "Police officers are trusted by the community not to deliberately flout the law as you did, deliberately taking prohibited drugs. As police officers you knew, both of you, full well that what you were doing was illegal, was wrong in every way."

Liverpool Crown Court was told that amphetamines, cannabis and Ecstasy were found in the flat the two officers shared with John Roberts, 25, above a dental surgery in Colne, Lancashire. Both women pleaded guilty to possessing cannabis and amphetamines, possessing the two drugs with intent to supply, and supplying the two drugs. Hartley also admitted possessing Ecstasy. Wilkinson's plea of not guilty to that charge was accepted by the Crown.

Roberts had admitted possessing and supplying Ecstasy at an earlier hearing and was sentenced yesterday to 240 hours' community service.

Hartley's former boyfriend, Andrew Howarth, 29, and Wilkinson's former boyfriend, Jason Heath, 23, both of Burnley, were jailed for three years on drugs offences at an earlier hearing. Two other men were fined for possessing cannabis.

Guy Gozem, for the prosecution, told the court: "The prosecution accepts that these three defendants were not dealing in drugs for commercial gain but they were supplying drugs to their friends, it would seem at cost price."

The majority of the drugs were found in Hartley's room, which was where visitors to the flat used to congregate. Police also found a letter on Wilkinson's bed from a Northampton girl whom the two policewomen had met on a foreign holiday.

It read: "To Liz, please find enclosed cheque for £80. I think it's enough. £45 smoke, £10 E, £25 speed. I've left it blank for you to fill in who it's payable to."

Mr Gozem said that when Hartley and Wilkinson were interviewed later they admitted supplying their friends with drugs. They denied supplying anyone else.

James Gregory, for the two officers, said they were both "very new police ladies" with three years' service and no CID experience. "The disgrace and humiliation of today's appearance is enormous for both of them and brought entirely on themselves," he added.

Hartley joined Lancashire police in December 1990 and was stationed at Burnley. Wilkinson joined the force two months later and was based in the same division at nearby Padiham.

TERRY MEALEY

Elizabeth Hartley, left, and Liza Wilkinson outside Liverpool Crown Court

Lesbian guilty of killing man who tried to grab her

By Andrew Pierce

A LESBIAN convict who attracted national notoriety when she beat up Myra Hindley in prison was yesterday sent back to jail for life after battering to death a neighbour she said had tried to rape her.

Josie O'Dwyer, dubbed Britain's toughest woman prisoner after taking part in a prison riot in 1973, changed her plea to guilty of murder moments before the Old Bailey jury retired to consider its verdict.

O'Dywer, 39, who was raped and abused as a child by her father, snapped when Peter Sutherland, a friend and neighbour, lunged at her. The horror of her childhood experiences triggered an eruption of violence, the court was told. She picked up a plank and smashed it on the man's skull.

The murder took place in Mr Sutherland's home, opposite O'Dwyer's, a short walk from Holloway jail where she attacked Hindley in 1975.

O'Dwyer had claimed that she was acting in self-defence but as the jury was about to retire she leapt to her feet and shouted: "I want to change my plea. I killed him."

The case was adjourned for 30 minutes so O'Dwyer could consult her lawyers. She was jailed for life by Judge Lowry whose summing up had to be adjourned because O'Dwyer had an epileptic fit.

During the four-week trial the jury was told that the woman, who lived alone with a Dobermann called Fury, went berserk when the neighbour lunged at her breasts and said she "needed a good man".

Orlando Pownall, for the prosecution, said that O'Dwyer battered the victim with such force that she could not have acted in self-defence. The impact was made when the body was face down and the injuries were to the back of the head. O'Dwyer, a heroin addict, fled to her family home in Cornwall but eventually gave herself up.

O'Dwyer had invited herself to Mr Sutherland's home early on February 10. A pathologist's report said that he had been battered at least nine times on the back of the head.

Innocent man is freed after 'rape victim' confesses

By Michael Horsnell

A MAN serving six years in prison for rape has had his conviction quashed by the Court of Appeal after his "victim" withdrew her allegations and confessed to misleading the court.

John Griffin, 35, said after being freed: "I was totally innocent but my life has been wrecked. I've lost my girlfriend, a good job, and at one time even my own family wanted nothing to do with me. I would never have believed this nightmare could happen to an ordinary man. It has been a terrifying and devastating experience."

Mr Griffin, a former quality control inspector from Mossley, Greater Manchester, had served three months in Strangeways when he received a letter from his so-called victim. He said: "She told me she was sorry for what she had put me through and would put matters right."

The Crown Prosecution Service confirmed yesterday that the 18-year-old woman whose allegations led to his conviction has been charged with perjury and with attempting to pervert the course of justice. She will appear before Trafford Magistrates on October 17.

Mr Griffin, who says he lost his good reputation as well as his freedom when he was convicted and sentenced at Manchester Crown Court earlier this year, added that his status as a sex offender attracted constant threats from other prisoners during his time in jail.

Before winning his appeal before Lord Justice Roch, Mr Justice Forbes and Judge Pownall, QC, in the appeal court last week, he reached a point of despair at which he considered suicide. He added: "I've not had a word of apology or a penny piece in compensation from anybody for what I've gone through. I even had to borrow money to make the trip down to London for the appeal hearing.

"I was totally innocent but my life has been wrecked. I've got arrears of over £2,000 on my house and I'm stonybroke, so I'm going to lose it."

He was arrested when police raided the home of a friend in Greater Manchester, where he was working on a pirate radio station, in February last year. He protested his innocence throughout his trial. He was later transferred to Wakefield high-security prison, then allowed out on bail in August before his case came before the appeal court. He said: "It's a wonder I ever got out at all. One report to the court, based on a 20-minute interview, concluded I was a dangerous man and should be detained for a long time."

HRT for men can benefit farmers

MEDICAL BRIEFING

IN THE future, burly farmers, red-faced and macho, may have a secret hidden beneath their trousers as they stride over their acres, or wander around the agricultural showground.

Dr Malcolm Carruthers, the Harley Street doctor who has long been preaching the value of HRT for men, has found that no group seems to need it more than agricultural workers. He attributes low levels of blood testosterone in farmers to past use of hormones in animal husbandry. Britain now forbids such hormone use but there are thought to be moves afoot to rescind the ban at a meeting in Brussels on November 27.

The announcement from the United States that a testosterone patch, Androderm, will provide HRT for men has caused widespread interest. Since early last year a male HRT plaster has been used for the treatment of selected cases, but the patch was very large and had to be applied to the scrotal skin. Wearers of these large plasters have complained that their partners were sometimes disconcerted when they saw parts of their lovers bound in sticking plaster.

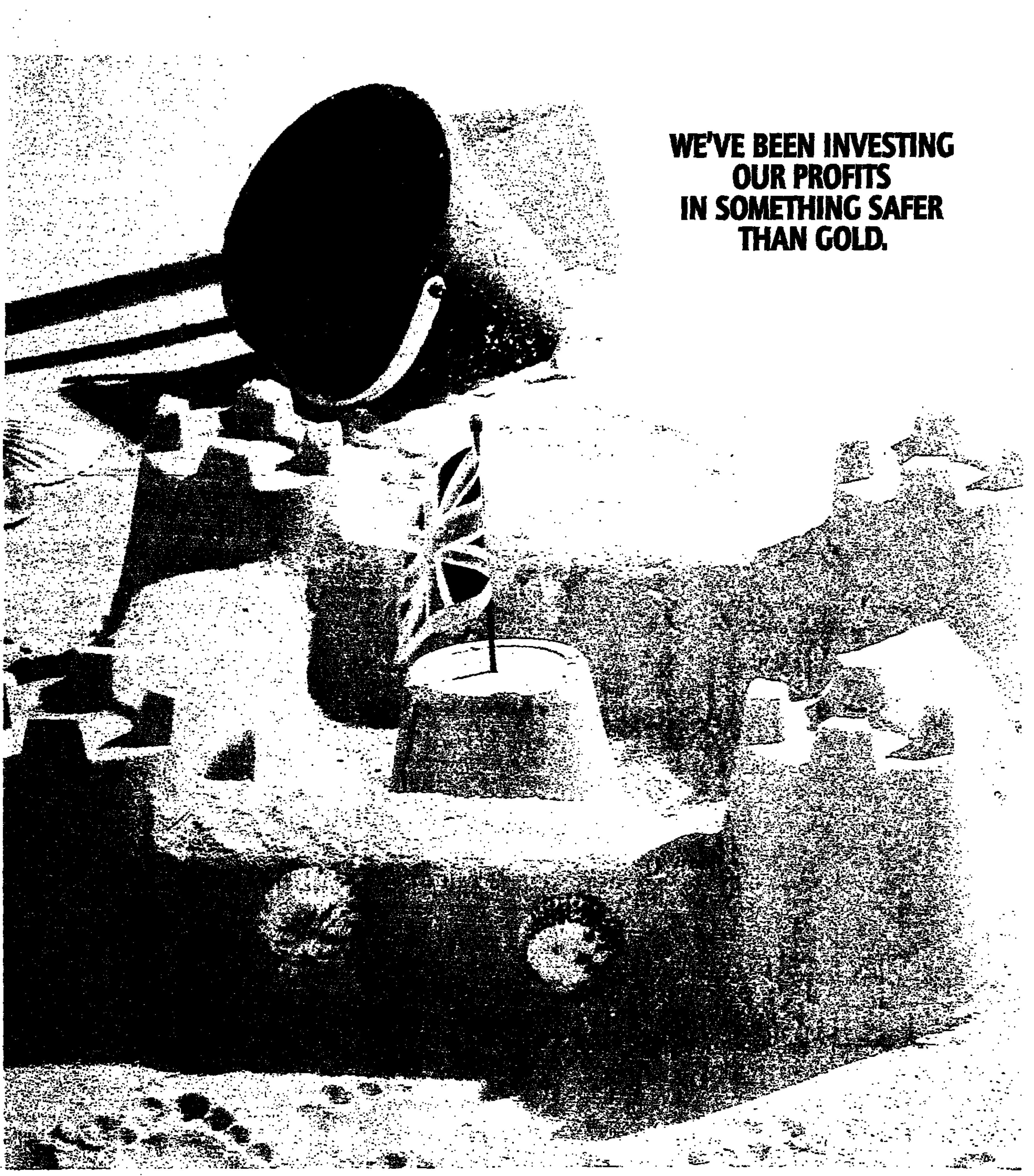
Androderm is being introduced by SmithKline Beecham. Two plasters, each three inches across, small enough not to alarm a sexual partner and easily hidden under the farmer's breeches, are applied daily and together provide five milligrams of testosterone. The new patches do not have to be worn on the scrotum, but can be applied to the back, upper arms or legs without losing any of their power. They are no more unsightly than the ones that cardiac patients use to keep their angina at bay, or the HRT patch worn by women.

Doctors emphasise that a testosterone patch is not an easy cure for impotency. Testosterone patches are useful only when blood testosterone levels are lower than normal and will not achieve very different effects than that obtained by injections, but the effect will be longer, and the dose more evenly absorbed.

Insufficient testosterone can occasionally be one of the causes of failing sexual prowess. Its lack produces a loss of sexual interest, rather than impotence. If this interest in the opposite sex can be restored, potency will sometimes be regained.

The patches will not be available in Britain until next year, when a prescription wil be needed.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD



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Major urged to stand firm against the creation of a superstate and a single currency

Sceptics delare an uneasy truce in war over Europe

By Nicholas Wood, Alice Thomson and Jill Sherman

THE Euro-sceptics declared an uneasy truce yesterday in their three-year war with the Tory high command.

Despite the odd ceasefire violation, they are now concentrating their fire on the main enemy — Labour — in the belief that they have achieved many, if not all, their aims. Yesterday, Europe was the dominant issue inside the hall, where Malcolm Rifkind flaunted his new-found sceptical credentials, Michael Portillo bashed Brussels as only he can, and the audience warmed to the party of the nation.

On the fringe — an increasingly dominant part of the Tory conference — the sceptics were everywhere, holding seven well-attended meetings compared with only one from the beleaguered pro-Europeans.

Norman Lamont attacked Tony Blair rather than John Major, accusing him of preparing to trade national independence for the keys to 10 Downing Street.

Sir Teddy Taylor and Teresa Gorman, two of the MPs who lost the whip for their defiance of the official line, praised the government for coming round to "our way of thinking".

As Mr Lamont put it: "We are all Euro-sceptics now." Well, not quite. John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, took to the fringe to fly the tattered colours of the Heathite wing. He insisted that ministers did defend British interests in Brussels. Turning on the sceptics, he said: "Only those who want Britain to have less influence and less power in the world want to remove Britain or emasculate her in the EU."

Nor did John Redwood entirely subscribe to the new spirit of harmony, urging Mr Major from the lofty heights of Bill Cash's European Foundation meeting to "show leadership in Europe". While most of the leading sceptics stifled their repeated demands for Mr Major to rule out a single currency in the next Parliament, Mr Redwood urged the Prime Minister to lead a pan-European crusade against a monetary union, which he claimed would "break Europe asunder". It was already setting country against country and causing "untold pain in the economies of Europe".

Even the Germans were terrified of the "monetary monster". They were now buying the Swiss franc, Europe's only strong independent currency.

France was suffering 12 per cent unemployment and was being asked to suffer more to meet the Maastricht convergence criteria. The single currency was part of a plan to "build a superstate by stealth," he said

"It is time for Britain to show some leadership in Europe. We must show Europe a positive way forward that overcomes the rows, frustrations and conflicts of the superstate agenda."

He added: "I would like Britain to say three more things: that monetary union on the Maastricht model is impossible, that monetary union is dangerous to Europe as a whole, that Britain would not join a monetary union."

The next election, he said, would not just be a battle over who rules Britain but a battle over whether there would be a Britain left to rule. Britain's task was now to maintain the balance of power in Europe, sometimes in alliance with Germany, sometimes with France. "It is time for action, not just words. There is a world to win and a free Europe to save."

Tebbit: attack on Euro-extremists

Lord Tebbit, perhaps the fiercest of all critics of Brussels, also insisted that the party was uniting around its new sceptic creed. Only a few "extremists" from the Euro-enthusiast wing were spoiling the party, he mischievously proclaimed.

In remarks that confirmed the conciliatory mood of the Euro-sceptics he applauded Mr Major's stand against a single currency and said that "events have shown that he is right". He called on Mr Major to capitalise on Labour's enthusiasm towards Europe.

He told a fringe meeting organised by the European Foundation: "As Europe is becoming so unpopular, it is being embraced by Labour. They do have a habit of mistiming things and there is an opportunity for us to be right and popular at the same time — that great ambition of all politicians."

Mr Lamont told his audience that Tony Blair, "like any opportunist", was playing a dangerous game in seeking short-term advantage to win the election at any price. "His gamble could mean that Britain pays the ultimate price so that Tony Blair can get to No 10 — Britain's independence."

Reflecting the sceptical shift inside the Government, Mr Lamont said that the party had "put its divisions over Europe behind it". It had emerged stronger from the fierce internal debate over the future of the EU and generated greater understanding of the issues at stake.

The former Chancellor offered an olive branch to Mr Major, whom he once excoriated for offering weak leadership dictated by short-term considerations. He now applauded his fresh doubts about the practicality of a single currency expressed after the Majorca summit and applauded his outright rejection of a federal Europe disclosed earlier this week.

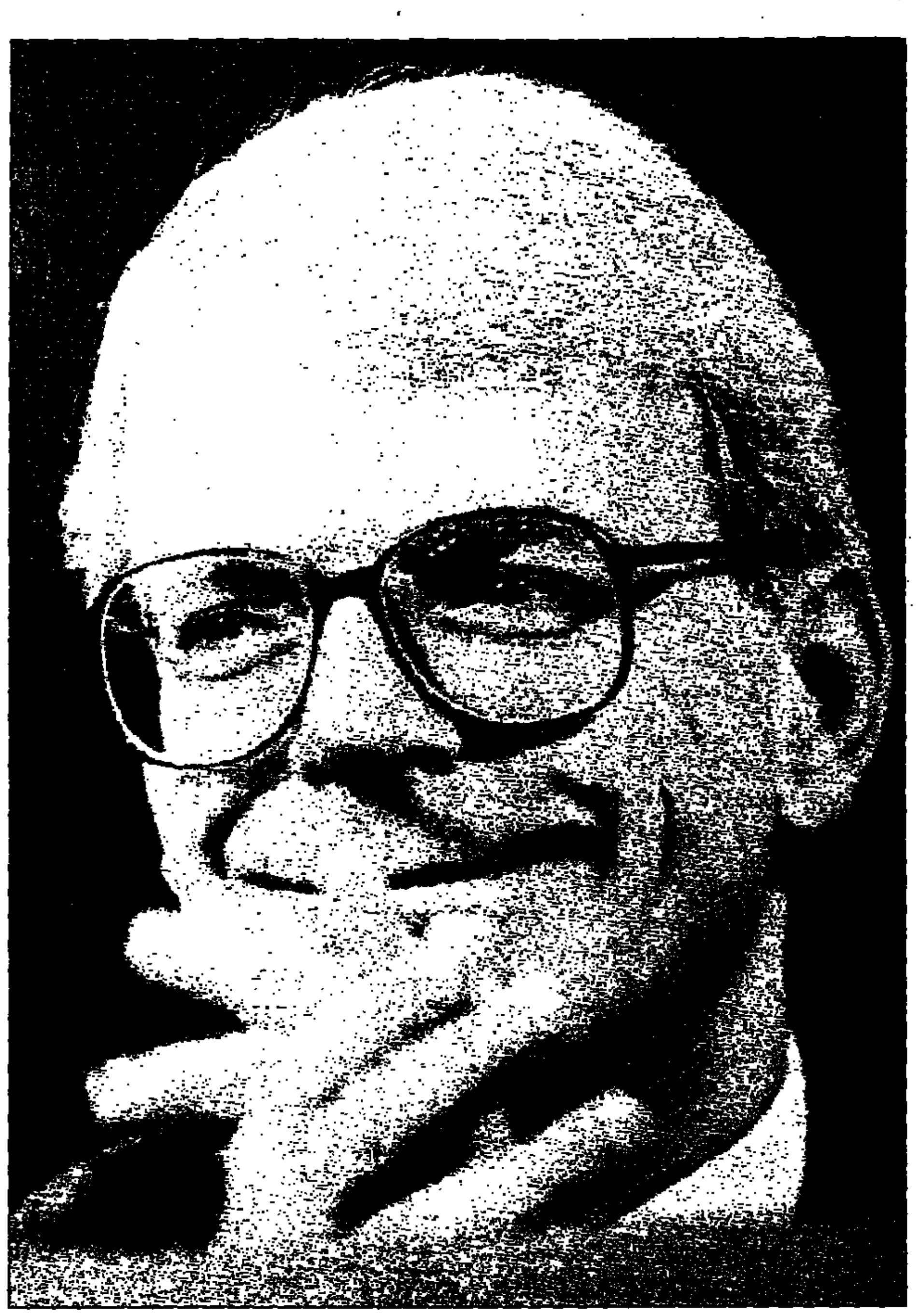
"Only the Conservative Government stands between Britain and the creation of a European state," he declared.

At a fringe meeting organised by the Young Conservatives, Sir Teddy and Mrs Gorman aimed most of their gibes at Labour rather than the Cabinet, giving warning that unless the Tories pulled together to win the next election, Mr Blair would cause a catastrophe by selling Britain out to Europe.

Mrs Gorman, MP for Billericay, praised the Prime Minister's "new Euro-sceptic overtures" and said she was encouraged that Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, seemed to have "some common sense". But they had to continue the fight for a referendum.

Sir Teddy, MP for Southend East, said: "We have been on the margin, now we are the mainstream. There has been a huge change in public feeling about Europe and now even the Government is going in the right direction."

Simon Jenkins, page 16
Leading article, page 17
Battle for virtual voters
Interface, page 9



John Major on the platform at the opening of the Tory party conference yesterday

Rifkind ready to risk isolation in free trade fight

By Nicholas Wood and Jill Sherman

MINISTERS are prepared to be unpopular and isolated in Europe in the pursuit of British interests, Malcolm Rifkind said yesterday as he responded to the sceptical mood sweeping the Tory party.

The Foreign Secretary also extolled his plan for a transatlantic free trade area embracing the European Union and North America. "Britain is an Atlantic nation as well as a European nation. We are the world's foremost champion of free trade. We are therefore perfectly placed to fight the good fight," he said.

Mr Rifkind's move prompted a warning from Sir Leon Brittan, one of Britain's two EU Commissioners and a former Cabinet minister, that the proposal would fail if it was viewed on the Continent as an alternative to joint action in Brussels. While welcoming the move, Sir Leon said that Britain had to be seen to be acting in the interests of Europe as a whole.

Mr Rifkind said: "Transatlantic free trade will be difficult to achieve. There are strong protectionist tendencies within both the EU and the US. The reform of the common agricultural policy, already essential if Europe is to enlarge to the East, will become an even greater priority. But the rewards of success will be enormous in terms of jobs, trade and prosperity."

Replying to a debate in which sceptics were to the fore but refrained from direct attacks on ministers, Mr Rifkind ruled out a slide into a European superstate while backing joint action at a European level in areas such as tackling pollution and international crime. "There is no logic in the proposition that to protect that achievement the nation-states of Europe must go down a path of ever closer union until they become the nation-state of Europe."

Matthew Jeffery, from Tonbridge, Kent, urged John Major to reject a single currency. But he warned his party against damaging splits over the EU. "It is time for the British lion to awake and roar 'no' to a single currency, 'no' to a Central Bank, 'no' to a common foreign and defence policy, and 'no' to any further transfer of power to Europe," he said.

FOREIGN SECRETARY

Mr Rifkind promised a "cool assessment" of proposals — due at next year's intergovernmental conference — to identify the balance of national interest. "We will not accept proposals that would damage Britain's interests on the spurious grounds that, otherwise, we will lose influence, create a two-speed Europe or be left out in the cold."

Labour would be a "soft touch" in Brussels and sell out British interests. "Either Britain will have a Government that is prepared to be unpopular and occasionally isolated in defence of British interests or it will have a Government that will give in when the going gets rough."

Mr Rifkind ridiculed Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, who last week accused him of relying on long-dead Victorian statesmen for his inspiration. "I prefer Palmerston dead to Robin Cook alive," Mr Rifkind said. Mr Cook and Tony Blair had spent the Cold War as members of CND, denouncing America. "Where Palmerston would have sent a gunboat, Robin Cook would send *Rainbow Warrior.*"

Mr Jeffrey made a surprising attack on ministers who had been involved in sleaze scandals. "I hope that some members of the Government keep their belt buckles fastened and their flies zipped up — no more sleaze, no more scandal. You are supposed to represent the people, not take advantage of them."

He was applauded after urging conference to rally round Mr Major so that he could lead the Tories to victory at the next election.

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Minister defends the right to hunt

By Alice Thomson

DOUGLAS HOGG, the Agriculture Minister, made clear yesterday that the Government would not support any backbench measures to scrap blood sports.

Seeking to ensure that the Tories retained their image as protector of the rural community, he said shooting, hunting and angling were "a significant part of country life and sustain thousands of jobs". Intimidation and violence by animal-rights activists would not work. To cheers, he told the Tory conference that although he did not hunt, he defended the rights of those who did.

Mr Hogg also set out to woo the fishing and farming communities with promises to take court action against Spanish fishermen who trawled illegally in British waters, and to combat Brussels bureaucracy.

He said that the Government would continue to work for better conditions for transporting live animals. "Our next objective is to seek European agreement for a ban on the crating system used for the rearing of veal calves."

☐ John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, bowed to pressure from rural lobby groups yesterday, abandoning a proposal to give tenants of subsidised village housing the right to buy their properties. He told the Blackpool conference that a forthcoming White Paper would make clear that villages with populations under 3,000 would be excluded from the scheme.

Self-delusion is real danger for Britain

A truce has been declared between the leadership and the sceptics over Europe — and it is largely on the latter's terms. The new consensus was yesterday expressed in a polished and ambivalent way by Malcolm Rifkind, and, more crudely, by Michael Portillo. The Defence Secretary's rapturously received speech was, however, really about reclaiming the leadership of the Right after his eclipse by John Redwood during the summer — though there was more than a touch of hubris in his final remarks about "who dares, wins" when he failed to dare in June.

The main sceptics, from Mr Redwood, via Norman Tebbit and Norman Lamont to the former whipless rebels, sent conciliatory signals at a series of fringe meetings. For the first time since the Tory infighting over Europe erupted in the early 1990s, the sceptics' target was Labour rather than their own leadership. The pro-Europeans, notably Sir Edward Heath and several MEPs, are unhappy and disliked Mr Portillo's rhetoric, but there is little they can do. Nobody is keen to follow Alan Howarth to Labour.

Yesterday's speeches said more about the Tory party than British foreign policy. The leadership's aim was to show that the sceptics' views are now being expressed from the conference platform rather than on the fringe. Hence Mr Portillo's Euro-bashing was authorised: his speech had been vetted by Downing Street and the applause was led by John Major himself. The unstated sub-theme was the isolation of Mr Redwood on the fringe. This was meant to declare an end to the open warfare of the past three years and to emphasise instead differences with Labour. We had a foretaste yesterday of a central strand of the Tory election campaign.

The price was a binge of self-indulgent flag-waving. Competitions in patriotism are unedifying and vacuous, whether coming from Brighton or Blackpool. Mr Portillo has become as expert in rousing the conference's passions as Michael Heseltine in his heyday. There is the same exaggeration, the same creation of irrelevant bogeys of the kind which Douglas Hurd used to warn about in his most world weary way.

Mr Portillo was talking nonsense yesterday when he spoke about the European Commission harmonising uniforms and cap badges or the European Court wanting to stop British soldiers fighting more than 40 hours a week. There is no prospect of any British Government agreeing to Brussels controlling our defence policy, or of that being seriously on the agenda. He blurred the distinction between between a *common* foreign and defence policy, agreed by all countries, which Britain supports, and a *single* foreign and defence policy, which Britain opposes.

Mr Rifkind played his hand more skilfully. His speech yesterday was essentially a summary of his Chatham House lecture of September 21. His references to Palmerston and the primacy of British interests, and the distinction with British influence, are a smokescreen for the real choices at next year's intergovernmental conference. The question is not whether there is going to be a European superstate. There is not. The real choices are about whether the British Government has the freedom to make the negotiating compromises inevitable in the development of a European Union of 15 countries.

The real danger is of self-delusion. Fantasies about Britain alone, or even talk about a revived Atlantic alliance, risk disguising our interests. There is obviously a need to repair transatlantic relations, but this will be hard to achieve. Current strains are not because of any lack of commitment on the part of the Major Government, but reflect a deeper divergence of interests between America and Europe which it will be hard to bridge. That has become clear from recent talks between the EU and America on improving relations, notably on transatlantic free trade. Such a free trade area faces opposition from France and serious reservations among certain American officials. Britain may be keen to push this initiative, but, as Sir Leon Brittan said yesterday, it will only work as something designed to promote the interests of Europe as whole, rather than as a British alternative to the EU. Yesterday's speeches did nothing to clarify the real foreign policy choices.

PETER RIDDELL

TODAY'S DEBATES

Conference:

Transport (speaker Sir George Young)

Education and employment (Gillian Shephard)

Competitiveness and deregulation (Michael Heseltine)

Social security (Peter Lilley)
Health (Stephen Dorrell)

Local government and housing (David Curry)

On the fringe:

Selsdon group (Conservative principles and winning ways) John Redwood

National Association of Headteachers (Education funding) Gillian Shephard

Conservative Medical Society (primary health care): Stephen Dorrell

Conservative Political Centre (Do we care about the arts?): Virginia Bottomley

Tory Reform Group: Ian Lang

Conservative Way Forward dinner: Michael Portillo

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Arts budget will not take lottery cash, says Waldegrave

By Alice Thomson, political reporter

MONEY from the National Lottery will not be used to replace government spending, William Waldegrave promised yesterday.

A leaked letter from Virginia Bottomley, the Arts and Heritage Secretary, to the Chief Secretary implied that the Treasury had given in to the temptation to use lottery cash to fund her department's £300 million arts programme.

But yesterday Mr Waldegrave was forced to climb down publicly, assuring Mrs Bottomley: "Lottery funds will not be used to replace ordinary government spending. I can make it absolutely clear now that there is no question whatsoever of breaking that pledge."

Mrs Bottomley warned Mr Waldegrave, in the leaked letter written three weeks ago, that using the lottery to replace any arts spending "would represent the clearest possible broken promise".

The letter added: "This commitment has been repeatedly given by members of the Government from the Prime Minister downwards. The Opposition would milk the broken promises theme for everything they can get."

Yesterday Mrs Bottomley refused to comment on her spending round success but admitted she was an experienced negotiator when it came to fending off departmental cuts.

Later, in her conference speech, she insisted that the British National Lottery was the best in the world. She said that well over "an incredible £1 billion" has now been raised for the Good Causes Fund.

"Across the country, 1,355 good causes have already received support, from local youth groups to national flagship institutions," she said. "This is an unbeatable way of raising extra cash to help good causes: sport and the arts, the caring charities and heritage, and to celebrate the millennium."

She added she would be launching "a major new initiative to get more schoolchildren and young people involved in the arts — building appreciation, acquiring skill, gaining enjoyment". Later she described the initiative as similar to the lottery's sponsorship of sport for young people.

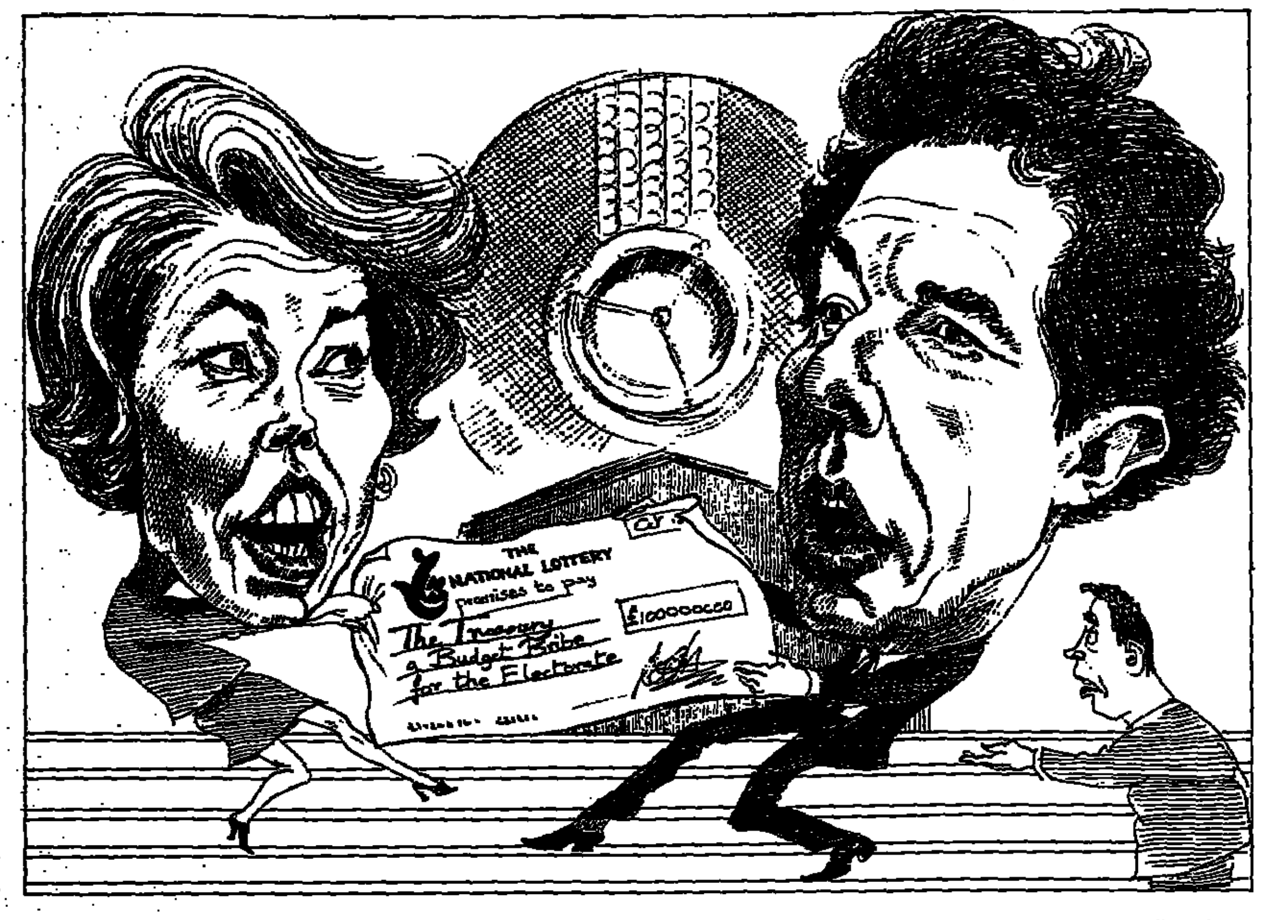
She also told delegates: "I give you this pledge — medical charities will receive their share. That's what people want, that's what they will get."

Mrs Bottomley then turned to the BBC saying it would have to meet the same standards of taste, decency and impartiality under its new charter as independent broadcasters. Mrs Bottomley praised Britain's media as the best in the world, "but that excellent standing abroad must never be compromised by bias or distortion at home".

She said: "It is a crucial link in the chain of democracy. But freedom must never be a licence to distort with propaganda or pollute with smut and gratuitous violence. Freedom must always go hand in hand with responsibility." She added: "That is why I am determined to ensure that in the new charter and agreement precisely the same requirements of taste, decency and impartiality which now apply to independent broadcasters will apply equally to the BBC." She then asked the conference hall whether they had ever bought a lottery ticket, and declared that 95 per cent had. "We are all winners," she said.

Conference speakers gave the lottery their full endorsement and condemned Labour for "whinging about its success".

Alexis Elliott, from Putney, southwest London, said: "This is the Ministry of Fun not the Ministry of Glum. We don't see anything wrong in people enjoying themselves. The lottery is character-building and part of being British. Why replace Camelot with Whingelot when it is doing brilliantly as Winalot."



Fear remains over funding temptation

THE lesson of lotteries around the world is that, whatever ministers say, eventually, the proceeds are used to plug gaps in government spending. In California, lottery money has even been used to fund schools (Alexandra Frean writes).

In this country, several voluntary organisations have expressed scepticism about government reassurances that lottery money will be protected from Treasury and local authority raids. Stuart Etherington, of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, said: "We have always understood that the lottery was new money and would be most concerned if it were used as substitution for public expenditure." The five bodies that distribute money to the arts, the country's heritage, sport, charities and the millennium celebrations have all spoken of the need for vigilance.

Major savours suite victory at night

MICHAEL HESELTINE may have triumphed over Cabinet colleagues in securing the biggest ministerial office in Whitehall, but he has lost out in the battle for the largest bedroom in Blackpool. The Imperial Hotel's two best suites, each boasting two bedrooms, have been allocated to the Majors and the Mawhinneys.

Perhaps with one eye on ministerial tensions, the hotel and the jewellers Peter Jackson decided not to repeat the gifts made to Cabinet ministers during their last visit of silver paper knives engraved with their names. "They have been given cut-glass crystal carafes with the Tory torch logo and their names," says Mr Jackson.

☐ ***The image of John Redwood as being not quite of this world was further enhanced yesterday lunchtime during his performance in a fringe meeting.***

Redwood meticulously selected a ham sandwich before the start. He set it before him, occasionally examining it during the meeting. Once or twice two he looked as if he was about to raise the article to his mouth, only to think better of it. At the end, he jettisoned it untasted. "I don't remember ever seeing Mr Spock eat anything either," noted a spectator.

☐ **To counter Tony Blair's whirl of spin doctors, Brian Mawhinney has dispatched four of his most media-friendly MPs into the press centre. The Tory chairman's answer to Peter "Bobby" Mandelson is his own sharp-witted parliamentary aide, Alan Duncan. He is aided by the cherubic Charles Hendry, while broadcasters are offered Michael Mates. For some reason the more cerebral David Willetts is "spinning" to the regional press.**

☐ ***Edwina Currie has just handed over the final draft of her new sex-and-politics thriller,*** **A Woman's Place** ***to publishers. The further exploits of Tory MP and Currie lookalike Elaine Stalker are detailed in the sequel to*** **A Parliamentary Affair.** ***"The lawyers have cleared it for libel after going over it*** **very** ***carefully," smiles Currie enigmatically.***

SHEILA GUNN

Criticism of judges urged

By Arthur Leathley

CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH

BRIAN MAWHINNEY, the Conservative Party chairman, urged the public to criticise judges and magistrates directly if they disagreed strongly with court decisions.

He acknowledged public fury over court decisions decried as either too lenient on offenders or too harsh on people defending themselves against attack.

"People are outraged — and so am I — when someone who is only trying to defend himself or his property winds up being prosecuted, while the attacker gets off with a slapped wrist," he said. In his first conference speech as chairman, Dr Mawhinney said the party would press for victims to be protected and offenders to be punished severely.

He made clear that court judgments should not be immune from public comment: "Magistrates and judges are good people, but they do not act in a vacuum. So praise them when you agree with them and let them know if you are dissatisfied. The expression of the public's view on sentencing does have an effect."

A speech which received rapturous acclaim was boosted by the use of televisual effects in which unflattering images of Tony Blair and John Prescott were screened across the platform backdrop.

Dr Mawhinney put cutting taxes as the Government's central aim. "It always has been and will be — so watch this space! This party chairman confirms again that our instinct, our goal is to reduce tax," but he stressed: "We will always be a prudent Government."

Portillo to boost front line with tanks

By Philip Webster and Michael Evans

DEFENCE

MICHAEL PORTILLO is to announce details next week of a new rapid reaction strike force drawn from the Army, Navy and the RAF.

The Defence Secretary told the conference that it would be capable of speedy deployment over long distances. The plan to form the joint force was first announced by Malcolm Rifkind when he was Defence Secretary in July last year as part of the Frontline First programme. Since last year, military planners have been trying to create the right combination of forces to ensure that the new unit has sufficient armour to take on a heavily armed enemy.

Mr Portillo is expected to announce during the defence debate in the Commons on Monday that the force will be based principally on the Royal Marines, the Parachute Regiment and 24 Airmobile Brigade. There is also likely to be an armoured squadron with tanks.

Defence sources said the new rapid deployment force, which will also include RAF transport aircraft and helicopters, will not be a "standalone" unit. Instead, the diffferent elements of the force will be earmarked for possible deployment, although the personnel will train together and a headquarters will be set up to command it.

Mr Portillo said he was determined that the Armed Forces would be equipped to world-class standards. "When we ask our men and women to risk their lives for their country, they must have the best."

Two defence orders — for Apache attack helicopters and Tomahawk cruise missiles — underlined that resolve. On Trident, Mr Portillo pledged: "While risks remain to our security, Britain should never give up that ultimate guarantee of our freedom. A Conservative Government never will."

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Union's rules on manning go by the board for five nights of Puccini at the Albert Hall

Impresario unveils cut-price opera to attract the masses

By Dalya Alberge, Arts Correspondent

Raymond Gubbay intends to fill the Albert Hall with his presentation of *La Bohème* next February

AN IMPRESARIO is to stage "a people's opera" with top tickets cheaper than those at the Royal Opera House. Raymond Gubbay will be presenting Puccini's *La Bohème* at the Albert Hall, keeping the cost down by ignoring union rules on manning.

He accused the Royal Opera House of elitism yesterday and criticised as antiquated trade union rules that cause tens of thousands of pounds to be "wasted". Mr Gubbay, who presented *Turandot* at Wembley Arena in 1991 with the Royal Opera, said that his plans to produce Verdi's *La traviata* with that company had been thwarted by the unions. Stage hands who moved scenery "in front of the audience" would have wanted about £30,000 — as well as the payment for work backstage.

La Bohème will be staged next February, in association with the Albert Hall. Mr Gubbay said: "Restrictive practices within our national companies lead to an acceleration of costs."

He is staging five performances for an audience of 20,000. A top-price ticket will cost £37 against well over £100 at the Royal Opera House. About 524 seats will be available at £13.50 and 1,300 at £19.50, compared with an average of 760 seats under £22 at the Covent Garden.

The more expensive Covent Garden seats are at higher prices than those at British opera houses in general. Seats in the stalls at the London Coliseum to see the English National Opera are available at £35 and in the balcony at £8.

Mr Gubbay pointed out that he did not receive millions in government subsidy. His prices, he said, were comparable to West End shows.

Mr Gubbay added that working with the Royal Opera had shown him the extent to which "accepted practices are not cost-effective". He said that if a prop was needed from a storeroom, under union rules a member of staff could not fetch it alone but must be accompanied by another member of staff.

He also questioned the necessity of keeping specialist staff permanently occupied: full-time armourers, hatters, and jewellers. "With so many people available on a freelance basis, I wonder how much of an indulgence that is."

He said that presenting *La Bohème* in the round, rather than in a proscenium theatre, would allow the whole audience to be involved: "The object is to entice and encourage the thousands who enjoy music from opera but who never go to opera houses."

The Albert Hall, which has a populist image through events including sport and the Last Night of the Proms, seemed right, he said: "It is a place that people identify with, bringing popular opera to a popular venue."

He also noted that the production would celebrate the centenary of the first performance at La Scala, Milan. The production, directed by Michael Hunt, will have two casts, including Katerina Kudriavchenko and Susan Bullock as Mimi, and José Azocar and Arthur Davies as Rodolfo.

A spokeswoman for the Royal Opera House said last night that prices were affected by capacity. The Albert Hall had 5,000 seats compared with just over 2,000 at Covent Garden. "The headlines were screaming about Pavarotti seats at £267, but there were 869 seats at under £50. And they weren't all duff seats."

She added: "We're not like a one-off promoter. We're running a full-time theatre. It can be far more expensive to use part-time staff." She said that Mr Gubbay was out of date in his criticism of union regulations as the house had negotiated a new "very efficient, cost-effective agreement".

No one was available for comment at the technicians' union Bectu yesterday.

Incentives lure back business 'refugees' to Ulster

By James Landale

MINISTERS launched an international campaign yesterday to woo back business people and young entrepeneurs who fled the Troubles in Northern Ireland.

Incentives worth up to £75,000 will be offered to any of the 200,000 emigrants who return to set up a small business. For each new job created, they will receive £4,000. The "Make It Back Home" initiative, pioneered by the Local Enterprise and Development Unit, the Province's small business agency, was launched yesterday by Baroness Denton of Wakefield, the junior Northern Ireland Minister, at *HMS Belfast* in London.

Most of the people who left for England, North America and the Far East were educated to secondary level and 26 per cent of them went to university. "That means that Northern Ireland lost a very large number of people who would normally have made a huge contribution to business and community life," she said. "We want them back."

During the last year some 500 people indicated their intention to return during a series of the unit's seminars and business clinics across the United States. About 70 business people have already done so, creating some 300 jobs.

Among those returning is John Matchett, an engineer who left for Canada in 1974. "Life was scary. There was atrocity after atrocity." Six years ago he felt the mayhem had to end and returned. He now employs more than 60 people at his light engineering company at Carrickfergus, Co Antrim.

"My hunch paid off. I knew the killings had to stop. Both factions were looking for an excuse to end the conflict. I think there is now a great opportunity for expatriates with a business flair."

James Brown, 36, was one of thousands who fled the Province with a top-class university education. Aged 21, he went to America in 1974. At the beginning of last year, with a grant from the unit, he set up a company in Banbridge, Co Down, making golf clubs and hopes to double his workforce of six in the next few months.

Lady Denton added: "The opportunities are there. They really can Make it Back Home — in all respects."

Baroness Denton: launched initiative

New drug gives hope to tumour patients

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

AN EXPERIMENTAL drug has shown remarkable results in the treatment of aggressive brain tumours. Two years after 15 patients were treated with the drug, 12 were still alive. Normally the expected survival rate would be less than one in five.

Although the numbers in the trial were small, the results are striking. Scotia, the manufacturer of EF13, has already made a product licence application after trials against pancreatic cancer showed encouraging results.

The latest study was carried out at the Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences in Panjagutta, India. The team used EF13 — chemically, gamma-linolenic acid — to treat patients after brain tumours called gliomas had been removed surgically. The brain cavity was infused daily for ten days with the drug. Brain scans showed reductions in the size of tumours and more normal brain anatomy in all cases. The treatment was followed by radiotherapy.

EF13 is one of a new class of drugs being tested by Scotia that have aroused scepticism from much of the pharmaceutical world. They are based on naturally occurring fatty acids which, unlike traditional cancer drugs, are not strongly toxic. The theory is that EF13 stimulates the production of chemically active agents in tumour cells but not in normal ones. Thus they have a selective effect and can kill tumour cells while not affecting healthy ones.

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Axe hangs over interplanetary craft while human horde seeks encounter close to home

British demand for 25% cut threatens research in space

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

SCORES of space missions, including one to Mercury and another to investigate the mystery of gravity waves, are at risk because Britain wants to make deep cuts in Europe's space science budget.

The British move for a 25 per cent cut in the European Space Agency's science budget will be unveiled next week at a meeting of the European Space Agency in Toulouse and has dismayed scientists in member nations. It is feared that a sharp cut could set back the agency's growing lead over the United States and Russia in areas of space astronomy and physics.

Roger Bonnet, head of the agency's space science programme, said yesterday in London: "Up till now Britain has given excellent support to Europe's space science budget and, although it is challenged by Germany and France, it remains the biggest source of ideas in this area in Europe. It is very hard to understand why the UK is now suddenly taking such a harsh line."

Britain wants the science programme reduced from ecus 357 million by about ecus 90 million over the next three years. Britain contributes about 14 per cent to the budget and ministers say savings can come in areas such as the building of spacecraft. Professor Bonnet met Professor Robert May, the Government's science adviser, to outline the impact of Britain's move yesterday. Professor Bonnet said he would have little choice but to resign if the British cut was agreed. "I would have failed scientists across Europe."

However, Jim Thomas, finance director of the British National Space Centre, part of the Department of Trade and Industry, said: "A saving of 25 per cent can and should be made without there being any effect on the science content." the cuts were partly needed to offset a fall in the pound's value against the ecu, which had increased the cost of Britain's contribution.

David Southwood, Professor of Space and Atmospheric Physics at Imperial College in London, said funding difficulties at the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council were to blame, with space becoming the target. Professor Southwood said: "The British claim that a 25 per cent saving can be achieved without an impact on the space programme has no basis in reality."

There was a mythology that the agency was grossly inefficient. He said that some Eurosceptics in the Government were attacking the agency for political reasons, "but the truth is that ESA's programmes are delivered on budget". Few organisations could claim that.

He added that the British position at Toulouse could also harm the nation's space industry. Space agency analysts claim Britain gets back £103 for every £1 it puts into the space science programme because British space companies and researchers are some of the most skilled in Europe. Britain receives a high number of orders to build spacecraft and equipment.

On November 8 the agency's Infared Space Observatory will blast off from French Guyana. The telecope, one of whose instruments is from Queen Mary and Westfield College in London, will search for cold objects in the universe such as stars forming from gas clouds. But its follow-up craft, the Far Infrared Space Observatory planned for the turn of the century, could now be scrapped.

The cut would mean cancellations or delays in the Horizon 2000-plus programme in which three "cornerstone missions" have been planned. One is to investigate the strange magnetic fields and ice fields of Mercury, a planet which has been visited only once, by an American spacecraft which merely flew by and took a photograph.

Another mission, to launch six satellites seven million miles from Earth, aims to find Einstein's gravity waves which, it is believed, were formed at the beginning of time along with light.

The push by Britain is the latest funding crisis in space. Ariane 5, the rocket to be launched next year, will have no British flag on the side because Britain has failed to contribute. Ian Taylor, the Space Minister, recently admitted that this may have been a mistake.

Mercury, with the sun behind it, has odd magnetic fields but a mission to investigate them is threatened

SUSYE GREENWOOD

Yesterday's message from earth, aimed at the Government, was clear enough

Watchers call for access to extra-terrestrial files

By Joe Joseph

THE absence of pulsating lights or whirring silver discs over Westminster yesterday did nothing to deter UFO watchers protesting outside a deserted House of Commons to demand the release of secret files on visits to Britain by aliens and UFOs.

John Holman, UK co-ordinator of Operation Right to Know, which organised the protest, said: "They don't have to say 'We are being invaded by extra terrestrials', but if they know British airspace is being penetrated by objects they should tell us."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence denied that Michael Portillo, the Secretary of State, was hiding from the public a fat catalogue of sightings and contacts with extra-terrestrial beings. He said there was nothing to reveal: "There is no question of us attempting to cover up any incidents, nor in trying to obscure the truth about UFOs from the public."

Mr Holman, an industrial product designer from Ripon, North Yorkshire, who claims to have videotaped a UFO in Wiltshire in 1990, did not believe him. "What we are after are the military reports and pilot reports which have been collected over 50 years."

Mr Holman, 46, said reports of a UFO landing close to an American base near Woodbridge, Suffolk, 15 years ago were withheld by the Government, but surfaced in America under the Freedom of Information Act. He also cited a Belgian military report from pilots who, in 1990, reported their jet had been "buzzed" by a UFO whose acceleration from 150 knots to 990 knots in seconds was beyond the endurance of human beings. "The Belgians made this report public, so why can't our Government release their reports?" Mr Holman asked.

Steve Clementson, from Hertforshire, was picking up signals from alien craft outside Parliament with a home-made UFO detector he calls "Gizmo". It runs on six small radio batteries and crackled with white noise. "The sounds seem to be the symbolic representation of chaos."

Giles Dexter said that because extra-terrestrials wanted to establish open contact with governments "they would like an embassy. You don't just turn up on a planet unannounced. You go through the proper channels."

UFO hotspot draws crowds but aliens fail to materialise

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent

THE mystery of why a small Scottish town has become the UFO capital of the world remained puzzlingly elusive at a packed meeting on Monday night. If some extra-terrestrial beings among the audience of 600 knew the answer, they were keeping quiet about it — as well as hiding in the down-to-earth attire of anoraks and woolly sweaters favoured by those lesser humans present.

Bonnybridge, in central Scotland, has laid claim to about 2,000 sightings of unexplained objects in the past three years and about one third of the population of the town claims to have experienced phenomena ranging from abductions by aliens to UFOs and strange lights.

The UFOs have put Bonnybridge on planet Earth's map, as well as whatever navigational aids aliens might call upon. Japanese film crews have turned up. American science fiction magazines are offering week-long holidays in the town and UFO enthusiasts from all over Britain have visited to see for themselves.

Billy Buchanan, an independent Falkirk district councillor and a man much ridiculed for his insistence that the phenomenon be taken seriously, admitted that no definite answer had emerged from Monday's meeting, which he arranged — and which led to a few walkouts by Scots angry at the poor value it gave for £2 a head.

"Some people came with preconceived ideas and, to be honest, it was not a UFO evening, it was a cosmic agenda evening," Mr Buchanan said. "But it gave people a chance to air the topic and to listen to what the experts had to say."

Geri Rogers, a UFO enthusiast from Edinburgh, [illegible] aliens, like many of the earthling tourists visiting the area, might have a keen sense of history. "The historical battles that have happened around this area could be important. This has always been a place of freedom, of principles and developments for the Scottish people."

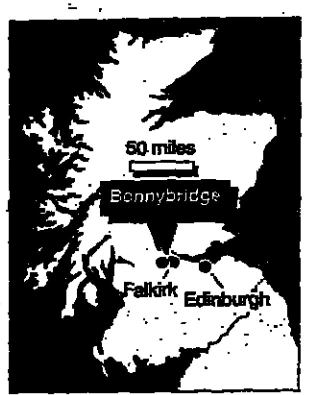
Ken MacFarlane, from Cheshire, said it was not only the place but the people of Bonnybridge who were in some way special. He urged them not to be afraid of either ridicule or aliens.

Phylis Schlemmer, a 66-year-old American who claims to have been abducted by aliens twice, told the meeting the area had a "very strong energy field".

She said: "This is the first time I've ever been here, but there's definitely something special going on. I can understand why this is a UFO hotspot."

Miss Schlemmer's claim to be in contact with "the Council of Nine", a shadowy group of superbeings who watch over the Earth, stretched the credibility of some of the audience. Her claim that Earth was merely the prototype planet on which other plans have been based also raised eyebrows.

Gregory Campopiano, 22, from Falkirk, said: "It is nothing like what I expected. I thought they would be trying to explain the sightings in Bonnybridge. Billy Buchanan has got three speakers in who are trying to baffle us with jargon."



Mr Buchanan was unrepentant. "The debate did get a bit lively and some people did walk out, but all I was doing was trying to give people a chance to hear what the speakers had to say. We have a big conference in Bonnybridge on January 6, when there will be people flying in from all over the world, so the issue will be raised again."

In the meantime Mr Buchanan has written to John Major to ask for a government inquiry into the situation. He is not optimistic. The Ministry of Defence told him there was nothing happening in Bonnybridge which affected national security.

Ultimately Mr Buchanan would like to boldly go where no councillor has been before and develop a "new concept in tourism". He has visions of a giant observatory and a virtual reality hall giving people experiences of UFOs. It would cater for all earthling needs, however, with a restaurant and a creche.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police find tourists' killer dead

An off-duty policeman who shot dead two British tourists in Tangier last Friday was found dead after apparently committing suicide, Moroccan police who had been hunting him said.

Inspector Mustapha Hamouche, 39, had suspected his wife of committing adultery with Westerners and killed her before the attack at the hotel. Three other tourists, including a British schoolgirl, were wounded. A British woman shot in the back was flown home on Sunday.

Pottery cache

Most of the 42 pottery items stolen from the Bernard Leach museum in St Ives, Cornwall, were recovered in a raid on premises in east London. Two men were charged with conspiracy to handle the Leach material and a painting. A third man is being sought.

Silver lining

An RAF rescue helicopter was scrambled when a fell walker called police to say he had seen a Hercules crash in a cloud of smoke near Glossop, Derbyshire. The false alarm was caused by the aircraft passing over a hill behind which a farmer was burning heather.

Titanic purchase

A poster advertising the maiden voyage of the Titanic in 1912 was sold for £7,800 at Christie's, South Kensington. Chris Lowe, 46, of Swindon, a collector who bought the 40in by 25in poster, designed by Montague Black, said: "Only four were made."

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Unions' display of might in public-sector stoppage adds to pressure on Prime Minister under siege

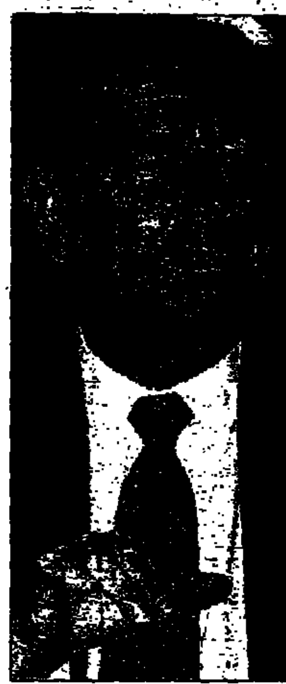
Strike by 5m workers paralyses France

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

A ONE-DAY strike by five million civil servants and public-sector workers paralysed much of France yesterday in the most aggressive display of union might here for at least a decade.

With buses, railways and underground trains operating only minimal services, millions found themselves trudging to and from work while mass demonstrations in more than 80 cities helped to compound some of the worst traffic jams in the country's history.

The strike, to protest against a wage freeze planned by the Government of Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, brought together the five principal federations of the French union movement and two public-sector unions in a rare show of unity. Two out of every three French schools and most post offices closed, while hospital services were drastically scaled down.



Chirac: reminder of 1986 demonstrations

France's high-speed train service operated at a quarter of its usual capacity and air travel was seriously disrupted, particularly in southern France. Three out of every ten Eurostar trains between London and Paris were cancelled, and French telephone and electricity services were affected.

The Paris Métro was reduced to a skeleton service, leaving some passengers waiting up to an hour for a train. Many commuters stayed at home rather than face the horrors of attempting to travel to work on what the French press called "Black Tuesday".

In Paris, more than 25,000 strikers marched in glorious sunshine from the Bastille to Saint Augustin, singing, beating drums and waving banners in a political demonstration that often seemed more like a carnival parade. Union organisers said between 50,000 and 100,000 people had taken part. "Olé, Olé Olé Olé!" sang representatives of the French police union, "the police are in the street". In other Paris streets, police declined handed out "free" tickets, listing their grievances.

Some were rather less happy to find themselves on the pavement. Yves Sarton left his home two hours earlier than usual and joined millions of other Parisians to walk to work. "I haven't done this for ten years," the portly M Sarton observed grumpily, as he rested, perspiring heavily, in the Tuileries gardens.

For long-distance commuters the situation was even worse, with traffic stretching ten miles along motorways into the city. Government ministers, who have chauffeurs and tend to live in the heart of Paris, were perhaps the least affected by the disruption. Many, however, were careful to be out of town when the strike got under way.

About 57 per cent of French voters supported or sympathised with the strike, according to a poll published in *Le Parisien* newspaper yesterday. Only 26 per cent opposed the strikers.

Economic instability, fears that France will not meet the requirements for European monetary union, a fragile franc, tax hikes, terrorist attacks, the dispute over nuclear testing and a burgeoning corruption scandal that threatens to unseat the Prime Minister, have lent the strike a far wider significance, reflecting nothing less than "a collective state of disappointment", according to *Le Monde*.

For President Chirac, yesterday's scenes must have carried a heavy sense of déjà vu, no doubt recalling the last time all the French unions joined in protest at frozen wages — in 1986, when M Chirac was Prime Minister.

Five months ago, Parisians crowded into the streets to celebrate M Chirac's election; yesterday, those same boulevards were packed with demonstrators shouting their defiance.

Before his election M Chirac promised both to reduce taxes and to slash the deficit, but instead taxes have already been raised twice and radical fiscal reform has been postponed until next year. Financial analysts remain sceptical about the Prime Minister's economic reforms, and his ability to stand up to the unions.

Jean Puech, the Civil Service Minister, has announced he is prepared to negotiate public-sector pay for 1997-8 this year, but he is standing by the planned freeze for next year. "The door is always open for a genuine social dialogue," he said yesterday.

The Opposition has been quick to capitalise on the Government's tribulations, and Michel Rocard, the former Socialist Prime Minister, yesterday accused M Juppé of "brutal provocation" of the public-sector workers.

M Juppé's political survival depends on his handling of this strike — if, that is, the Paris prosecutor who is considering whether to launch a formal corruption investigation into the his lease of a city-owned flat, does not scupper him first.

Tens of thousands of marchers take part in a rally through Paris yesterday that often seemed more like a carnival parade

British travellers delayed

THOUSANDS of British visitors to France were delayed and frustrated yesterday as they were caught up in the strike (Harvey Elliott writes).

Air services were badly affected with delays averaging more than an hour. Many flights had to be cancelled after air traffic controllers and airport fire crews joined the day of protest. British Airways cancelled seven of its 34 flights to various French airports from Britain.

Although Air France staff were not involved in the strike, the airline cancelled 40 of its flights. The walkout by firemen left only one runway operating at Paris's Charles de Gaulle airport for much of the day.

With few Métro trains running, roads from the airport to the centre of Paris were clogged with cars and buses, forcing many business meetings to be cancelled or delayed.

Herzog raises fears of return to 1930s misery

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN STRASBOURG AND ROGER BOYES IN BONN

A TIDE of nationalism and depression could drive Europe back to the miseries of the 1930s if it abandons economic and monetary union, President Herzog of Germany said yesterday.

In a speech to the European Parliament, Herr Herzog lamented the doubts and bickering over the EMU project in recent weeks. The only hope for a stable future lay with EMU, he said: ending it would lead to "trade wars, protectionism, the renationalisation of economic policy and deflation if not depression," he said. "That would be a throwback to the 1930s."

A foretaste of that fate could be found in the trade war between Japan and the United States, he added. "Please ask people in your constituencies whether they want us to play with fire in this way," he begged MEPs.

His appeal was reinforced by support for France from Theo Waigel, Germany's Finance Minister. Monetary union cannot happen without France, Herr Waigel said in an interview, adding that he was confident the French economy would qualify to join a single currency.

President Herzog's speech seemed aimed as much at his own countrymen as at Eurosceptical governments such as Britain's. "Those German citizens who are afraid of losing their strong mark in monetary union have a point, but they must realise that its strength is not solely in the hands of the Bundesbank," he said.

Herr Herzog laid out a federalist programme as the best hope for peace and prosperity in a continent, which, he said, enjoyed a greater sense of community than politicians realised. "Our Anglo-Saxon Europeans need not be afraid of it," he said, adding that the current bout of monetary turmoil which has seen the French franc come under pressure was proof that political union was essential for monetary union.

Herr Waigel, who was in Washington for an International Monetary Fund meeting, gave a vote of confidence in the French Government.

"The French are making great efforts to fulfil on time the Maastricht criteria. I believe in their resolve and I am also confident that they will reach this goal … I believe they will do it," he said.

France had made great strides over the past years in developing growth and anti-inflationary policies, and he welcomed Paris's attempt to consolidate the budget, concluding: "A monetary union in Europe must include France and Germany."

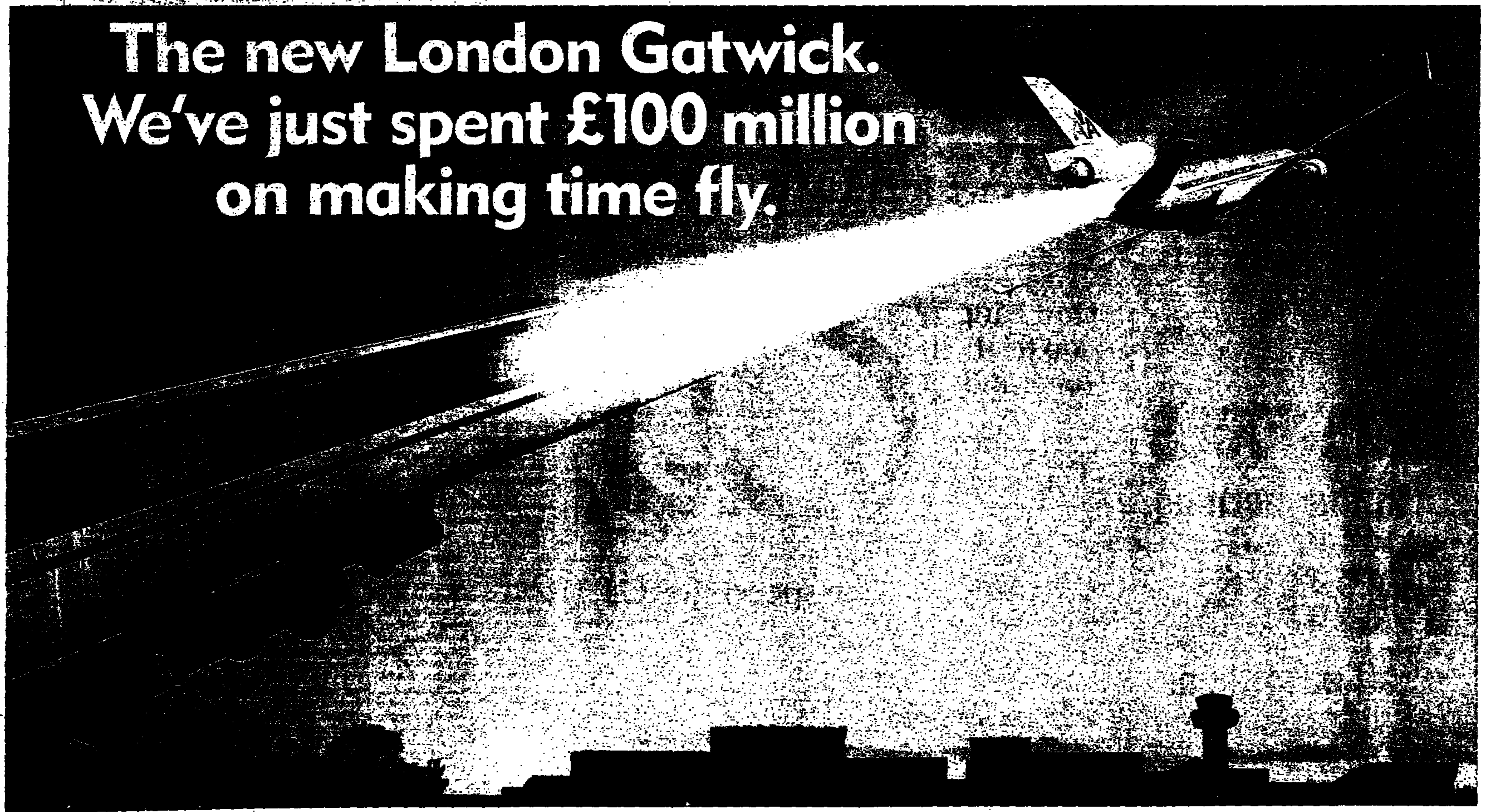
It is not clear whether Herr Waigel's comments will be wholeheartedly welcomed in Paris; French officials share the irritation of other EU states that Germany should be awarding points to, or reprimanding, future members of the monetary union.

But the remarks, German officials said, were made in a "friendly supportive" spirit and should be seen in the context of a much broader campaign to soothe the troubled relationship.

Karl Lamers, the European strategist of Helmut Kohl's Christian Democratic Union, this week launched a new parliamentary working group which will provide another channel of communication with France.

The move drew an irritated response from his party colleagues because the initiative suggested that the German Chancellor's personal ties with President Chirac are no longer adequate.

The Christian Democrat move was matched yesterday by the Social Democrats, who have set up a group aimed at reducing recent Franco-German tension.



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US race tension rises as black Muslim's call summons the disaffected

Farrakhan: a chance to promote himself

FROM TOM RHODES
IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON is bracing itself for the most important black power march in decades amid fears that the event could ignite further racial tension in the wake of the O.J. Simpson trial and thrust its extremist organiser to the head of a rudderless black community.

Louis Farrakhan, the Nation of Islam leader, has described next week's Million Man March as a day of prayer, protest and atonement for black men and has said that its goal is to unite the black community behind a banner of responsibility.

In reality, the rally is little more than an opportunity for Mr Farrakhan to promote himself as a mainstream leader for black Americans disenchanted with Democrats and Republicans. The former New York calypso singer turned charismatic preacher has denied that his objective involves attaining political power or an attempt to convert thousands to the Muslim faith. However, he agreed that many blacks were dissatisfied with a political establishment perceived to have undermined many of the gains of the civil rights movement.

"We feel the Democratic Party is playing games with its loyal black constituents," said Mr Farrakhan, who is widely viewed as one of the most divisive men in America, a fiery orator whose extremist rhetoric lays the blame for slavery, Aids and other ills in the black community at the doors of whites, Jews and the Government. Recent FBI tapes have re-ignited allegations that Malcolm X was shot in Harlem at the instigation of Mr Farrakhan — claims he has consistently denied.

The march, expected to attract more than 200,000 black men from all parts of America, has alarmed many in the Clinton Administration and on Capitol Hill who are concerned about Mr Farrakhan's dominant role in such a mainstream event. The White House has refused to allow blacks on its staff time off to join the rally, although Mr Farrakhan is urging all blacks to leave work for the day in Washington, a city he has described as "the capital of our oppression".

The event has even attracted sceptics such as the Rev Al Sharpton and the Rev Jesse Jackson, both of whom have spoken out against Mr Farrakhan. Rosa Parks, a hero of the civil rights movement after she launched the bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama, 40 years ago, will make a speech as will Maya Angelou, the poet. The American Muslim Council, which previously had denounced the Nation of Islam as a cult, is sending 5,000 members.

The Farrakhan call, which has been rejected by General Colin Powell and Johnnie Cochran, the leading lawyer in the O.J. Simpson defence team, has otherwise been successful, partly as a result of increasing fears that Congress, the states and the courts are working against policies that once opened doors to the black population.

Today black men are less likely than either black women or white women to gain a university place and are twice as likely as white men to be unemployed. Blacks are increasingly unhappy with a political status quo in which former civil rights leaders such as Mr Jackson are seen as largely irrelevant and are turning away from their traditional Democratic roots.

Although whites see General Powell as a perfect future president, a poll published yesterday indicated that blacks were wary of the retired Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff whom many see as a creature of the white Establishment. While 54 per cent of whites favour the general over President Clinton, he has only 25 per cent backing among blacks, according to the *USA Today/Gallup survey.*

Israel's mass jail release thwarted by PLO protest

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ATTEMPTS by Israel to release nearly 1,000 male Palestinian prisoners yesterday as a goodwill gesture degenerated into chaos as the Palestine Liberation Organisation said that hundreds would refuse to leave and claimed that others were not being handed over according to last month's Washington treaty.

In a separate development, ten right-wing Israeli reserve officers said that they were willing to go to jail rather than do their annual compulsory military duty in protest against the accord extending Palestinian self-rule to much of the occupied West Bank.

Many prisoners stayed in jail in solidarity with 20 Palestinian women who are refusing to leave until Israel honours the terms of last month's treaty and releases all Arab female prisoners. The Israeli Government has refused to permit the release of four women convicted of murder.

The confusion and ill-feeling overshadowed what should have been a landmark day in the peace process, combining the mass prisoner release with a ceremony at Salfit to mark the Israeli withdrawal of the first of its administrative offices in the occupied West Bank outside the PLO-controlled enclave of Jericho. Colonel David Barel, the deputy chief of the occupying administration of the West Bank, said: "I wish the Palestinians luck and success with their new responsibility. I hope there will not be any need to enter this town again." Salfit is in a zone where Israel keeps overall responsibility for security.

Ahmad Fares, of the Palestinian Civil Affairs Ministry, said: "It's a historic day for Salfit and the people here." Containers from the Israeli administration building and a nearby army post were earlier loaded onto lorries. Israeli troops also moved out of the village and after the last soldier left, a villager smashed a pot on the ground in a traditional gesture to ensure against his return.

"Today Salfit, tomorrow Jerusalem," read a banner strung from the balcony of the municipality.

The joyful mood of the handover ceremony was in contrast to the chaotic prisoner release about which Ahmed Tibi, a senior adviser to Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, commented: "I believe this is getting off on the wrong foot."

As an Arab Israeli citizen, Mr Tibi petitioned the Supreme Court to permit the release of the four convicted women murderers whose freedom appeared the key to further progress.

Referring to 700 of the 1,200 jailed Palestinians who are deemed to be "security" or "political" prisoners rather than those convicted of criminal offences, Hisham Abdel Radek, a leading PLO official, said: "Without a solution to the issue of the Palestinian women prisoners, none of the prisoners will agree to be released."

During the day, about 100 of the ordinary convicts walked to freedom, but the releases were stopped by the Israeli authorities after the PLO said that the Washington accord was being breached because they were not being handed over to the 24-member Palestinian Authority. The Palestinians insisted that they should have the opportunity of reviewing the cases and either freeing the men, or putting them into PLO-run prisons.

The Israeli Government reacted angrily to the delays and the threatened demonstrations on behalf of the four Palestinian women, two of whom were refused pardons by President Weizman, and two by the military commander in the occupied West Bank.

"I think it would not be a wise step by the Palestinian Authority [to make an issue of it] . . and they understand this well." Moshe Shahal, the Police Minister, said.

Militia allies open 'house of horrors' prison to Red Cross

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

A FRONT-PAGE photograph in the Palestinian paper *Al-Quds* yesterday of a Red Cross team entering the notorious Khiam prison in Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon symbolised the shattering of secrecy that has surrounded the jail since it was opened ten years ago.

Until Monday, no humanitarian organisation had been allowed behind the walls of the former French-mandate fortress overlooking the Christian village of Khiam. The prison has become a byword for allegations of torture and maltreatment; none of the 200 Arab inmates has been tried or sentenced, and some have been there since it opened.

Run by Israel's proxy militia, the South Lebanon Army, the jail's reputation spread far and wide in the Arab world. One Beirut organisation reported that 14 prisoners had died since 1985 as a result of mistreatment.

As with the massacres of Palestinians in the refugee camps of Sabra and Chatila in 1982, Khiam was held up as an example of a place where Israel permitted its Lebanese allies to exceed all the norms of warfare. In January, Rafik Hariri, Lebanon's Prime Minister, accused Israel of running its jails like Nazis.

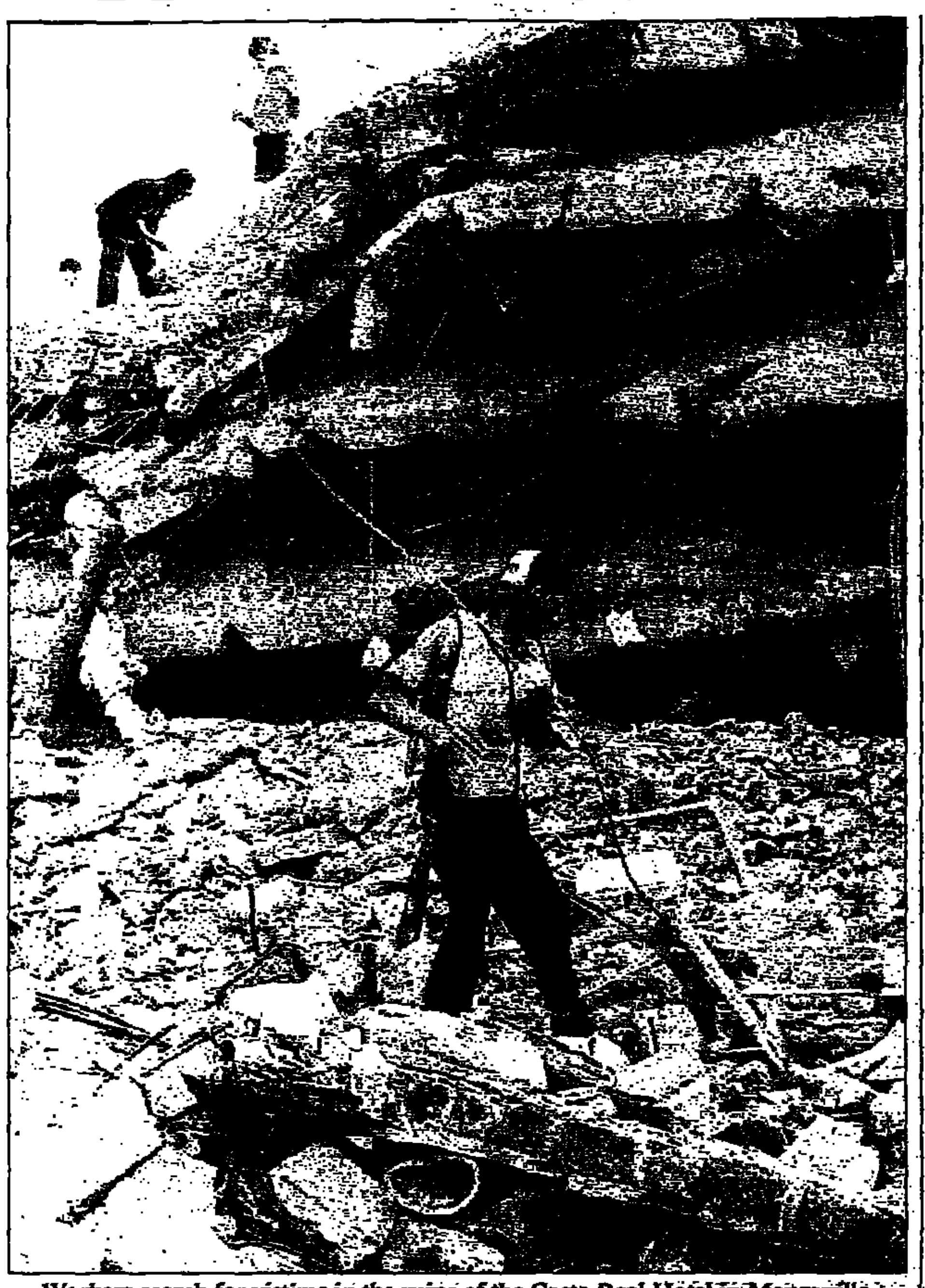
Israel has consistently denied direct involvement in the running of the jail whose western walls still bear the shell marks of the allied attack on the Vichy French in Lebanon in 1941. But the Israelis are known to finance, train and clothe the 2,500-member SLA. Reports circulated of blind-folded prisoners hearing Hebrew spoken while under interrogation. Inmates are mainly suspected members of Hezbollah, the pro-Iranian Islamic guerrilla movement.

Diplomats attribute Israel's campaign to improve its standing in the Arab world and to promote an eventual peace with Lebanon and Syria as the main cause for the decision to break the secrecy surrounding Khiam. The seven Red Cross delegates, including a doctor, will spend a week interviewing prisoners and prepare a report for the Lebanese Government.

Fed by a local propaganda industry with the help of sympathetic Western journalists, stories about the regime inside Khiam had been made all the more horrific because they could not be checked, except in the occasional visit by Israel-based reporters, which were themselves propaganda exercises.

In the new climate of peace in the Middle East, it became clear to Israel and by definition, to the SLA, that the secrecy of Khiam was beginning to backfire. The first sign of change came in February, when the SLA released 75 inmates as a "humanitarian gesture" and started to allow family visits.

UN officials, who have long been critical of the methods used at Khiam — whose inmates were once considered as pawns who could be swapped for the Western hostages held in Beirut — believe that the new policy is a gesture towards rapprochement in the region.



Workers search for victims in the ruins of the Costa Real Hotel in Manzanillo

Mexico earthquake kills 33

Manzanillo: Rescue workers swarmed over the wreckage of a seafront hotel yesterday in a frantic hunt for survivors from Mexico's worst earthquake in a decade.

State government officials had confirmed 66 dead night but lowered the number yesterday to 33 after making further checks. "We made a mistake," Alma Santibanez, a civil defence spokeswoman in the western state of Jalisco said. "In the same list we mixed up confirmed and unconfirmed deaths. It's clear that we caused a lot of confusion."

More than 100 people were injured and 1,000 left homeless by the quake, which was centred off the coast about 330 miles west of Mexico City and struck on Monday morning.

President Zedillo declared a state of emergency in Jalisco and Colima state and ordered troops and civil defence workers into the disaster area.

One of the biggest dramas was in this yachting resort, where the multi-storey Costa Real Hotel collapsed. Rescue workers pulled 12 bodies from the rubble and sought to free up to 20 employees and 20 tourists believed to be still trapped. Had it not been for slack out-of-season demand, casualties would have been much higher. *(Reuter)*

Caribbean hit by new hurricane

Miami: Tropical Storm Roxanne strengthened into a full-fledged hurricane early yesterday as it swirled through the Caribbean headed north toward the Cayman Islands and Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula.

The National Hurricane Centre said yesterday that Roxanne had been officially classified as a hurricane, the tenth of a busy Caribbean storm season.

"Maximum sustained winds have increased to near 75 mph," a spokesman for the centre said, adding that the storm was expected to continue gaining strength.

The Mexican Government has issued a hurricane warning for areas on the Yucatan peninsula, and Cuba declared a hurricane alert, preparing for torrential rains.

Roxanne was born on Sunday, just hours after hurricane centre officials declared Tropical Storm Pablo dead. *(Reuter)*

Carey appeal for Sudan refugees

Khartoum: The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, said he was saddened by the living conditions of Sudanese from the mainly Christian and animist south, who are displaced in camps outside Khartoum as a result of the civil war. "These people are in dire need of assistance," the Archbishop said at the end of his three-day visit, indicating that he would launch an appeal for international aid. *(Reuter)*

Leading article, page 17

Militant leader killed at hideout

Karachi: Four detained militants of the Mohajir National Movement were among 15 killed yesterday in Pakistan's commercial capital. Among the dead was Fahim Farooqi, a well-known Mohajir leader. Police had taken him and the three militants to a house identified as a Mohajir hideout when Mohajir gunmen hiding inside opened fire, the Government said. There were no police casualties. *(Reuter)*

Timor killing sparks unrest

Dili: Clashes broke out in the East Timorese capital yesterday after a civil servant was killed, leading to a stand-off between security forces in the territory held by Indonesia and angry East Timorese. The man's killers were reportedly from a pro-government area. Residents said youths hunted down Indonesian migrants who control business. *(Reuter)*

Pavarottis to stay together

Rome: Luciano Pavarotti said he will not seek a separation from his wife Adua, even though there were matrimonial problems (John Phillips writes). The tenor, in an interview with *Corriere della Sera*, did not deny reports that he was having an affair with his secretary.

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Don King on trial for fraud

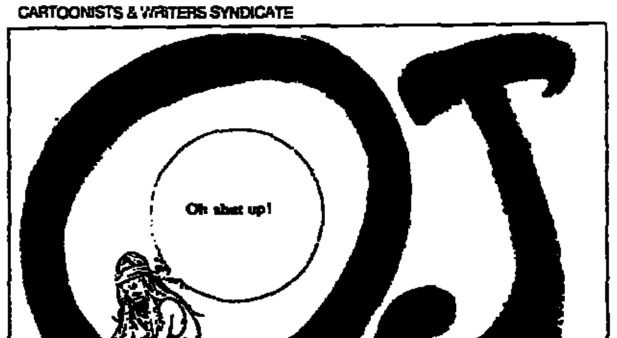
BY QUENTIN LETTS

DON KING, the American boxing promoter, went on trial yesterday in New York, accused of defrauding London insurers. There was a marked absence of his customary bombast before a bout as Mr King remained silent before the start of the federal trial.

He is accused of concocting expenses's claims for two 1991 fights that was never held. The scratched bouts, which were to have featured boxers Mike Tyson and Julio César Chavez, had been insured through Lloyd's; on the Chavez fight, Mr King received an insurance payment of $350,000 (£222,000) for training expenses.

Mr King, 63, faces a fine of more than $2 million and a possible five years in jail if convicted of nine charges. One of Mr King's former accountants, Joseph Maffia, is to testify for the prosecution.

CARTOONISTS & WRITERS SYNDICATE


O.J.
Oh shut up!
O JUSTICE!

The Simpson saga as seen by *The Sun* in Vancouver

Free speech for OJ

Los Angeles: Rejected by the lucrative pay-per-view television industry, O.J. Simpson will give his first full-length interview tonight since his acquittal and will earn nothing from it (Giles Whittell writes).

Mr Simpson will be seen live on NBC, for which he used to work as an American football commentator, in a rare advert-free broadcast. However the network faces protests from women's groups and the families of the murder victims, Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

Mr Simpson had hoped to earn up to $10 million (£6.3 million) from his first interview since the trial by requiring television viewers to pay in advance. However, last week America's two leading pay-per-view operators distanced themselves from the idea.

Clinton promises to capture saboteurs

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON said he was "profoundly outraged" at the sabotage of a passenger train in the Arizona desert on Monday and vowed yesterday to do all in his power to capture the self-styled "Sons of Gestapo" who claimed responsibility.

"We will get to the bottom of this. We will punish those responsible. We will not tolerate acts of cowardice like this in the United States," the President declared as the FBI launched a huge hunt for the saboteurs and Amtrak tightened security throughout the 24,000-mile railway network.

The Justice Department set up a special hotline for informants, and FBI agents swarmed over the remote site, 60 miles southwest of Phoenix, where the train, the Miami-Los Angeles Sunset Limited, was derailed early on Tuesday. Three carriages plunged 30ft into a dried-up river bed, a sleeping car attendant was killed, and seven of the scores of injured passengers remained in a critical condition yesterday.

Two notes were found at the site immediately after the crash. One was printed on computer paper, held down by a rock, and was examined by several passengers before the authorities retrieved it and sent it to Washington for analysis.

The passengers said it railed against the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the federal law enforcement agencies vilified by right-wing militia groups for their 1983 assault on the Branch Davidians' compound in Waco, Texas, during which more than 80 cultists died.

The notes were signed "Sons of Gestapo", but searches of recent Internet traffic and newspaper databases found no record of such a group.

American feminists deplore antics of sexist British bee

FROM QUENTIN LETTS
IN NEW YORK

AMERICA'S political correctness campaigners have a new heroine: a female British bee. A scientific journal has presented her as a classic animal victim of sexual harassment, with the female northern elephant seal, red deer and dung fly.

The research has a dismal message for feminists: forced copulation, harassment and intimidation are a natural state of affairs. Women's rights campaigners are enraged, accusing scientists of "political conservatism".

Animal Behaviour journal, co-published by America's Animal Behaviour Society, has seized on the plight of the female *Anthophora plumipes*, a bee found in Britain, to illustrate all that happens in the male-oriented insect kingdom. She is constantly pestered for sex by her male partner, a small but energetic specimen. At the same time she must find the family home, look after the young and go out to work.

Unlike the honey bee, the long-tongued *Anthophora plumipes* is a solitary creature. It does not live in a hive with a queen and well disciplined drones. Independence has its price. When the female *Anthophora plumipes* feels the urge to reproduce, she goes in search of a male, but then finds him unwilling to do anything but mate. This is the single-mother of the bee world and an exhausting life it can be, fighting off male advances sometimes as often as once every three seconds and receiving little in the way of proper companionship or assistance. The female bee is perhaps surpassed in her burdens only by the female dung fly, whose fate it is often to be drowned in slurry by her over-zealous mate.

An *Animal Behaviour* report, entitled "Sexual Coercion in Animal Societies", cites research from various scientists. Female elephant seals are often crushed to death by their fat mates. Male sea otters inflict terrible scars on the females of the species and female red deer sometimes die in agony after being served by inexperienced young males.

Ganging-up is the style of the male captive long-tailed macaque monkey. "Rates of aggression by males towards females," the journal reports, "increase substantially when a second male is present." It adds: "To minimise the costs of harassment, females should mate rapidly with males that harass them . . . Conversely, the first males to locate females entering breeding condition are commonly young or subordinate. Females mating with these males may suffer direct costs arising from the male's inexperience."

American feminists are horrified. Merle Hoffman, publisher of *On the Issues*, a feminist magazine, hit back yesterday. "I would call this another example of the political conservatism of behaviourists and geneticists," Ms Hoffman said. "They spend millions of research dollars in an attempt to prove the old party line that biology is destiny and that boys will be boys."

The *Animal Behaviour* research is the work of the British biologists Graham Stone of Oxford University, and Geoff Parker of Liverpool University with Professor Timothy Clutton-Brock of Cambridge. *The New York Times* quoted Dr Parker's description of his findings as being "all very squalid and depressing, but there we are".

Radio sets and vacuum cleaners are switched on as utilities are restored to Sarajevo homes

Bosnia ceasefire on course as gas supplies return

FROM STACY SULLIVAN IN SARAJEVO

A CEASEFIRE in Bosnia was set to take effect at 12.01am today after gas and electricity supplies began to trickle into Sarajevo yesterday, 24 hours later than scheduled. Bosnian Government officials said they were satisfied that the conditions had been met.

The much-heralded truce, which depended on the restoration of supplies to the battered Bosnian capital, comes after days of heavy fighting, Nato airstrikes and a fresh wave of "ethnic cleansing" across Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Bosnian government forces, backed by Croatian artillery, encircled Mrkonjic Grad, the last remaining town held by Bosnian Serbs on a road that would link the Muslim enclave of Bihac to the rest of government-controlled territory. The Serbs threatened to shell the Croatian capital, Zagreb, if the allied attack was not called off. In Serb-held areas in western Bosnia, paramilitary units under the command of Zeljko Raznatovic, a former bank robber better known as Arkan, continued to expel remaining Muslim and Croat civilians in an attempt to create an ethnically pure "entity" before the ceasefire comes into effect.

Arkan and his men, who are accused of some of the worst wartime atrocities including murder and rape, have reportedly rounded up between 8,000 and 9,000 Muslims. Many are reported to be held in camps where they are deprived of food, and raped or murdered. Officials from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said they were preparing for the arrival of thousands of refugees today and tomorrow.

Refugees, who have survived the brutal deportations, say men are usually separated from their families and taken away. At the Bistracau refugee centre, near Zenica, where about 1,000 of the refugees were taken yesterday, old women and children looked stunned and clung to their meagre possessions. Some told harrowing tales of robbery and beatings at the hands of Arkan's troops.

But their ordeal continued even after arriving in government-controlled territory. Officials from the UNHCR said the displaced people, after surviving a "hellish nightmare", were being re-settled by the Bosnian Government in Donji Vakuf and Bosanaski Petrovac, frontline towns that have been recently captured.

Despite the upsurge in fighting and the latest wave of "ethnic cleansing" all sides have said that they would respect the ceasefire once it came into force. The agreement also contains several conditions that have to be met once the guns fall silent, including promises to respect the rights of minorities on Bosnian Serb territory. The ceasefire, which had been due to take effect yesterday, was postponed because Russia failed to begin pumping gas into Sarajevo by the deadline.

Frantic work has been going on to repair Sarajevo's electricity supply lines. At the same time, members of opposing armies have been working side by side to remove mines, even as their comrades elsewhere in Bosnia continue to fight.

The Russian gas company that supplies Bosnia-Herzegovina were demanding assurances that the gas pipelines around the capital were in adequate condition after three and a half years of war. By yesterday morning, several hours after the deadline expired, a gas flow reached the outskirts of the city. But government officials said it could be days before the necessary repairs were completed to enable people to use gas in their homes.

As news of the resumption of electricity supplies was announced, traditional Bosnian folk music blared from the windows of Hajduk Veljkova Street. But it did not drown out the roar of vacuum cleaners and television sets blaring from the rows of flats lining the old town street where people have had only several hours of electricity a week until now.

"When I get home, I'm going to do the laundry, make coffee, do the cooking and heat water for a bath," Raza Dizdarevic, a 49-year-old shopkeeper, declared.

However, in the adjoining Hriste Boteva Street, anxious residents walked around their homes flipping switches to no avail. Electricity had not reached the silent street. "I feel cheated," said Lejla Hasegic, 21. "Every few minutes I try the lights, but nothing."

Officials at the UN, involved in restoring utilities to the capital, said the electricity networks in Sarajevo were still in need of repair and that it would be days before many residents could expect regular supplies. Even after the repairs are made, the supply will be limited and residents will risk losing their privileges if they exceeded their quota.

Muslim tells of torture in Serb camp

The Hague: Muslim victims of alleged Serb brutality gave harrowing accounts of routine beatings, torture and deaths at a prison camp in Bosnia-Herzegovina at hearings held by the United Nations war crimes tribunal for former Yugoslavia yesterday.

A factory worker told how he saw two Muslims die after they were tortured by a Bosnian Serb prison camp commander who described himself as "God". Ibro Osmanovic, 30, described hearing the screams of the men who were taken from the detention room at the Susica camp and beaten at the orders of Dragan Nikolic. He said Asim Zildzic was unable to walk or speak on his return. "He just kept sobbing. He died after about 15 or 20 minutes."

The next morning Mr Nikolic approached Durmo Handzic, who had been unable to sleep after his beatings, to question him. "Durmo responded, 'Let me see the sun once more' . . . Durmo started walking towards the door and after several metres he fell down and died," Mr Osmanovic said. *(Reuter)*

Electricians repair power lines for Sarajevo's trams as a much-heralded truce promises a return to normality

Scars cloud memory of a child survivor

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN VELIKA KLADUSA

MY ARRIVAL brought with it bad memories and the little girl stopped smiling. Her eyes widened and she stared at me in silence.

"Yes, she remembers everything," her grandmother said quietly.

I had last seen Dina 14 months ago, minutes after she had been shot in the head and chest in crossfire between Bosnian government troops and those of Fikret Abdic, the rebel Muslim leader, in Velika Kladusa, western Bosnia.

The little girl was then aged three. She had been travelling in a car with her mother, another woman and two other children, trying to flee the fighting. The car was hit by machinegun fire and all inside were wounded.

We got Dina to a French United Nations base. A doctor examined her there and said: "She could die at any moment." Her mother, Irma, herself wounded in the head and hand, had wept over her, imploring her not to sleep.

"Take me home, mummy," Dina cried, lapsing in and out of consciousness before being taken in a French armoured personnel carrier to a Bosnian hospital in Bihac. The plight of Bihac grew worse as the war with the Serbs raged on, until the Croat victory in August.

Dina did not die. Although in a coma for six weeks, she survived. I found her, living at her grandmother's house in Velika Kladusa. The blonde child walked, although unsteadily, talked and could see. She still has 15 bullet fragments in her head and relapses into temporary paralysis when the atmospheric pressure changes.

Irma, who works in the fields near by, seemed detached from the events of last year. There is no way to improve her daughter's condition until the war ends and no practical way for them to leave Bosnia until it does. "Even if I had the means for us to leave, I think I would stay until the end," she said. "We have survived this much and are meant to see it through.

"Dina is so strong and has managed to live in spite of everything. One day I will manage somehow to get the metal out of her head, but at the moment the doctors tell me the operation will cost 20,000 marks." She spread her dirty hands towards me. "We have to stay."

Akashi replaced as UN's envoy

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations announced a high-level reshuffle yesterday that will remove Yasushi Akashi from the top job in the Balkans and place a former Iraqi ambassador in charge of peacekeepers around the world.

Mr Akashi, the UN special representative in the former Yugoslavia, was replaced because his antagonistic relationship with the United States threatened to disrupt a smooth handover in Bosnia-Herzegovina from UN peacekeepers to the planned Nato-led peace implementation force.

The Japanese envoy, who made his name as the head of the peacekeeping effort in Cambodia, ran foul of Washington because of his repeated opposition to the use of air power in Bosnia. Under American pressure, he had already been cut out of the chain of command for UN-requested airstrikes before last month's bombing campaign against the Bosnian Serbs.

Mr Akashi will be replaced on November 1 by Kofi Annan, the Ghanaian head the UN peacekeeping department, who is liked by Washington because of his flexible approach to UN peacekeeping missions. The American-educated Mr Annan is almost alone in the UN leadership in arguing that recent Nato bombing has helped rather than hindered the UN operation in Bosnia.

UN officials said Mr Annan would remain in the Balkans for only a few months, during which peacekeepers would be replaced by the Nato-led force intended to implement a Bosnian peace settlement. His high-profile post as head of UN peacekeeping operations around the world will be filled temporarily by Ismat Kittani, a veteran Iraqi diplomat who is currently a special adviser to the UN Secretary-General.

Although of Kurdish origin, Mr Kittani represented Iraq at the UN during the gas attacks on the Kurds by the Iraqi Government in the late 1980s. He was chief-of-staff to Kurt Waldheim, the former UN Secretary-General, in the 1970s. Mr Kittani is also a close personal friend of Boutros Boutros Ghali, the present Secretary-General.

Nobel winner undermined the old economic theories

FROM REUTER IN STOCKHOLM

Lucas: it is all about people's expectations

ROBERT LUCAS, winner of this year's Nobel Prize for Economics, has altered radically the way in which governments around the world formulate economic policy, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said yesterday.

Professor Lucas, 58, of the University of Chicago, won the prize for "having transformed macroeconomic analysis and deepened our understanding of economic policy", the Swedish academy said.

"The great thing about Lucas is that his theories have really meant a lot for economic policy as well as for economic theory," Carl-Olof Jacobsson, secretary-general of the academy, said. "He is on the borderline between behaviourism and economics. His work has to do with people's expectations, and expectations are what people get from information."

Lars Werin, prize committee chairman, said: "Lucas undermined most economic theory published up to the 1970s. He has also been the most influential economist since then." Professor Lucas's most important contribution to economic theory has been his hypothesis of rational expectations, the academy said.

"You could not rely on the old thinking of how things are correlated since expectations have been shown to mean so much," Mr Jacobsson said. One example of that was wage policy. Forecasts of inflation and the supply of labour have a direct bearing on the level of wage settlements, which are in turn a key factor affecting inflation.

Professor Lucas also dispelled the prevailing theory in the 1940s and 1950s that unemployment could be controlled by expansionary monetary policy, which in turn would lead to inflation. "Experience during the 1970s and 1980s has shown that higher inflation does not appear to bring about a permanent increase in employment."

Tower of Pisa rocked by tremor

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

A STRONG tremor rocked the Ligurian and Tuscan coastline yesterday. Thousands of people ran into the streets and the leaning Tower of Pisa trembled, but then stabilised.

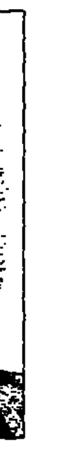
The shock was registered at 4.7 on the Richter scale at 8.04am. Scientists said its epicentre was close to the naval port of La Spezia. The tremor also was felt in Emilia Romagna and Lombardy.

Instruments in the belltower at Pisa registered the tremor strongly, alarming scientists who recently suspended attempts to right its famous lean after they appeared to be counter-productive. However, the scientists said the ripple did not appear to have harmed the stability of the monument.

Italy has suffered a series of major earthquakes this century, most recently near Naples in 1980, when thousands were killed and tens of thousands left homeless.

Moi renews onslaught on Leakey

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN NAIROBI



Moi: accused the West of double standards

PRESIDENT Moi of Kenya attacked critics of his Government yesterday, accusing the West of double standards and warning Richard Leakey, the opposition politician, that he faces prosecution for sedition.

During a rambling speech in Nairobi to mark the 17th anniversary of his accession to power, the President launched a withering tirade against Mr Leakey, the former conservationist, and Robert Shaw, the white Kenyans who this year founded Safina, an opposition party, with black lawyers. Waving his ceremonial stick, Mr Moi told an audience of foreign diplomats and Kenyan dignitaries: "They are campaigning for people to stop aid which helps ordinary people. They are telling people not to give Kenya money. I can prosecute them for sedition."

Mr Moi's outburst was the latest in a long list of verbal assaults on Mr Leakey and Safina, which the President has refused to register and whose officials have been harassed and beaten up. However the timing and ferocity of the remarks are significant. After the Auditor-General's report disclosed last week that £158,000 had disappeared from the Treasury, Safina wrote to the International Monetary Fund, blaming government corruption for Kenya's flagging economy and urging the IMF to keep up its pressure on the regime.

Many donor governments, including Britain's, have withheld promised funds and the IMF announced last month a freeze on new aid deals. Mr Moi has not helped his cause by saying he will arrest any members of an international tribunal who travel to Kenya to investigate genocide in Rwanda. Many of the suspects are believed to live in Kenya.

Japanese defence spending jumps ahead

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

JAPAN'S defence budget is now leaping ahead of Britain and other European countries and may be even bigger than the Japanese Government is admitting.

Although the 1995 budget appeared to rise by less than 1 per cent, the figures produced by the Japanese Government were denominated in yen. In dollars, the budget rose by one fifth, from $46 billion (£29.1 billion) in 1994 to $56 billion this year, according to the latest annual *Military Balance*, drawn up by the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

The IISS report said: "With the possible exception of Russia, Japan now spends appreciably more on defence than any other country apart from the United States."

The surprising increase in defence spending in Japan is part of an overall rise in military expenditure in the region of east Asia and Australasia, compared to extensive cuts across Europe.

IISS said the Japanese Government claimed defence spending amounted to no more than 1 per cent of gross domestic product. But some analysts believed the defence budget excluded items that would be classified as military expenditure under Nato definitions, including pensions for the army and dual-use research and development in aerospace.

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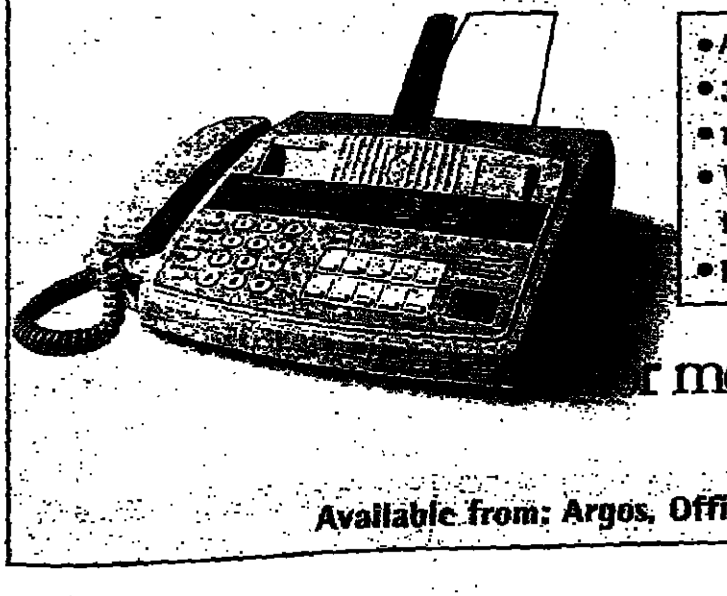

Next spring's wardrobe will be simplicity itself — a shirt and trousers — but the line is sleek, not sloppy

PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHRIS MOORE

White-hot separates and an uncluttered silhouette set the pace for spring/summer 1996: from left, **EMPORIO ARMANI, MAXMARA and GUCCI**

Understated glamour — the little cap-sleeve shirt and baggy trousers get a gloss: **JIL SANDER**

Milan goes crazy for sharp and shocking citrus shades — orange, lime and lemon: from left, **MAXMARA, ISTANTE and GIANNI VERSACE**

Together in separates

MILAN

Fashion

◆

IAIN R. WEBB

◆

Having travelled to Milan to discover the future of fashion, or at least what the Italian designers will have in their stores for women to wear next spring, I knew something was afoot when I observed my female counterparts as they took their seats at the first shows.

Among the smart little tweed dresses, camel coats and court shoes were a handful of pristine white T-shirts, flatter-than-flat ballet pumps, and sensible sweaters. Comfortable, easy clothes which need little thought or effort. Clothes to put on and forget about.

Which is exactly what Giorgio, Gianni and the rest have to offer this season. This does not mean the mood is sloppy. Silhouettes are crisp and clean-cut and fabrics are plush, yet it is the determined way in which designers have stripped down the look to the bare bones which makes it appear quite so elementary.

When a designer such as Jil Sander makes her fundamental statement of the season a shirt and a pair of trousers, then fashion may look as if it has lost the plot altogether — but Sander is a clever designer. She takes the ordinary and makes it glorious simply by cutting the wide-legged men's-style trousers in shantung silk, and the shirt in silk and satin.

Shirts were everywhere on the Milan catwalks. They appeared in every shape, size and fabric. Practically every designer did a version of a tiny, capped-sleeve shirt, often worn with baggy soft jersey trousers, or a hipster skirt (either thigh-high or just hitting the knee). Then there were the shirts which became shirtwaister dresses, either buttoning to the waist or through to the hem, and cinched with a tie belt.

A long, floor-skimming shirt was popular, as was a military-style jacket which was little more than a shirt itself.

In his secondary Emporio line, Giorgio Armani turned a little see-through shirt into a knee-length dress cut in ultra-fine silk, while another with a full-length gathered ballgown skirt of layer upon layer of chiffon made a modern evening alternative. Armani pursued his passion for pared-down elegance. Best of all were his fine knits — little pullovers and tie-back dresses.

For the most part designers used colour sparingly. Everyone used orange, yellow and lime green, but anchored these shocking shades to a solid base of black and white.

Gianni Versace opened his mainline collection with a matt black jersey trouser suit worn with a matching cropped ribbed sweater, and then a few outfits later showed the same outfit again in white. Not surprisingly it also came in orange, yellow and lime green.

Where MaxMara offered predominantly milky white garments, Dolce & Gabbana sent out models dressed for the most part in jet black.

The MaxMara silhouette is uncluttered and futuristic. Dolce & Gabbana were inspired by the neo-realist films of the director Antonioni.

Tom Ford's collection for Gucci continued his Sixties and Seventies hippy trip this season, ending up in Marrakesh via Palm Beach. He layered black and white kaftans and jellabas over cigarette-thin hipster trousers or hotpants. Shirts were tighter than tight, while lace tunics with bell-sleeves featured drawstring necklines. Paint splash and op-art prints added colour but looked perhaps a little too authentic.

Basic black still works day and night: **DOLCE & GABBANA**

Nothing so simple as a sweater and skirt: **JIL SANDER**

There can be nothing more real than Jil Sander's splendid collection. The highlight of Milan Fashion Week, it took rudimentary pieces of clothing and made them look exciting. A pearl grey polo-neck sweater worn with a straight silver silk skirt, a black short-sleeved polo-neck worn with black knee-length pedal pushers, or a black shirt worn with a white leather skirt.

There was an unmistakable assurance in Sander's touch, and in the midst of fashion's search for something new she somehow made the idea of wearing a black V-neck sweater and a short white skirt seem clever. Now that's really smart.

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How do Britain's envoys justify their privileged lifestyles? **Julia Llewellyn Smith** visited Beirut and Paris

A day in the life of two embassies

Britain's feisty woman behind the barbed wire of Beirut

MOHAMED AZAKIR

Maeve Fort: she travels Beirut in an armoured Range Rover

Maeve Fort, the British Ambassador to Lebanon, travels around Beirut in an armoured Range Rover, pursued by another replete with siren and flashing lights. Everywhere she goes she is accompanied by six bodyguards and her long-haired, white terrier Chloë. "It's bliss being home and able to walk into Marks & Spencer without this lot following me," she says.

In the past two decades in Beirut shells have exploded in the British Ambassador's garden, two embassy cars were dynamited and letter bombs defused. In 1984, Miss Fort's predecessor, Sir David Miers, now Ambassador to The Netherlands, was visiting the American Ambassador when a suicide bomber drove a truck packed with explosives into the embassy and killed 20 people. Sir David pulled the American envoy from the rubble. The Foreign Office does not draft people to the region, Miss Fort volunteered for her post.

She lives behind barbed-wire fences in a villa, in the hills of Christian East Beirut. The terrace — ideal for cocktail parties — looks out over the building sites and bombed-out shells of the ravaged city. The embassy is across the road. Miss Fort breakfasts in bed and is in her office before nine, to read the sheaves of telegrams. Cairo is detailing Islamic perceptions on Bosnia. The FCO instructs outposts to deny categorically newspaper reports that we are financially assisting France's nuclear tests.

There are four people at the morning meeting: Mr Tabib, of the Political Section, talks about the approaching elections. "An alliance between [the Government] and Hezbollah will be necessary." "It will lose them Western friends," says the ambassador, lighting the first of many Benson and Hedges.

The defence attaché discusses a British naval visit in November, the first since the end of the war. There will be a reception — the question is when. "November 22 is Independence Day, November 24 is the inauguration of the new President," muses Miss Fort. "It looks a tiny bit colonial if the British are around too much."

Telephones in Lebanon work sporadically, so business is conducted face to face. The first appointment is at 10am at the Port of Beirut, to discuss the British ship's visit with Admiral Alberto Ghoraieb. There is much gallantry, much offering of coffee and proferring of cigarettes. "We want to give this visit all the profile we gave the French," says the admiral. "There won't be the same fuss for the next visit though, so don't be offended," says a Lieutenant-Colonel Pilot. "The Italians were very upset but we want to make these visits routine." The timetable is outlined: lunch, press conference, volleyball competition, cocktail party "with lots of pretty girls". They discuss how many pretty girls there are in Lebanon, before Miss Fort steers the conversation to the Israeli navy. "They are still patrolling as far as Tyre, but the fishermen can go and fish now."

Next stop is Telé Liban, the state television channel. The embassy has invited its chairman, Fouad Naim, to visit Britain. "Normally," says Miss Fort, "we would invite ministers; but there have been none this year because we have had a change of government." Mr Naim thinks the BBC is the best television in the world. Coffee arrives, a tray of cigarettes is handed round. The lights flicker and go out. "Another power cut," everyone sighs.

Next stop is Michel Eddé, the Minister of Cultural Affairs. Miss Fort and Ann Malamah Thomas, the director of the British Council, want to discuss its reopening next month. The language spoken is French. Miss Fort, in her first Middle-East posting, declined to learn Arabic.

More coffee is served and Miss Fort asks the minister if he minds if she smokes. "*Ce n'est pas bon pour votre santé*," he says reprovingly. "*Ah? Tiens!*" replies Miss Fort. The minister roars with laughter. "*Et la politique?*" asks Miss Fort, and the minister lowers his voice conspiratorially.

The British firm Trafalgar House has won the contract to build Beirut's Sport City. The ambassador trips through rubble to chat with the contractors. Work is three weeks behind schedule, because Saudi backers are late with payments. "Are you interested in any other programmes?" asks Miss Fort. "I'm seeing the Prime Minister tomorrow."

By the time we reach the Beirut war cemeteries, we are running 45 minutes late. Nearly 2,000 members of the Commonwealth died in Lebanon during the two world wars; the embassy has been renovating the two graveyards. There is more wading through mud, the gardener has no plans for a path. "I think he could at least lay some gravel," says Miss Fort.

> 'Dinner parties are always difficult when you are single'

After lunch at the embassy, the afternoon is spent reading telegrams and taking tea with the widow of the late curator of the Beirut museum. Miss Fort does not entertain as often as her colleagues. "Dinner parties are difficult because I'm single," she says. Diplomacy presumes the existence of a willing wife. There are three women ambassadors. "When I was a student at Trinity College Dublin I was told not to apply to the Foreign Office, because I was female, I wasn't Oxbridge and I didn't expect to get a First," says Miss Fort, who joined the service in 1963.

That evening she is attending a dinner hosted by Jaguar, for Nick Scheele, the chairman. Her bodyguard waits for her in the hall, cooing "Doglet!" to the exuberant Chloë. Le Relais, a smart French restaurant is packed with Ivana Trumps sipping cocktails and kissing the air. We sit down at 9.30pm and plough into four courses. "We love your ambassador," says everyone. A bodyguard hovers by the front door. Miss Fort departs abruptly during coffee and *petits fours*. I lose her in a round of hand shaking and pleasantries. She is waiting in the Range Rover. "Don't keep her waiting," snaps a bodyguard as he bundles me in the back. "It's very, very dangerous."

CHRIS HARRIS

Sir Christopher Mallaby: he says that he has the loveliest embassy in Paris, where the idea is "to impress the pants off the French"

The impeccable mandarin who courts the French from his palace on Rue du Faubourg Saint Honoré

On a sunny morning in Paris, Sir Christopher Mallaby, the British Ambassador, is taking breakfast under the chandelier in the Tapestry Room. "Your toast, Sir," says the footman, as His Excellency scans *The Times*. France has had a bad summer. The world has condemned its nuclear tests in the South Pacific, bombs are exploding in the Metro and outside primary schools, troops are still in Bosnia and the economy is faltering.

Inside the gates of 39 Rue du Faubourg Saint Honoré, however, all is grace and tranquillity. The embassy, Britain's most splendid and costly foreign outpost, was bought complete with furniture in 1814 by the Duke of Wellington for £36,000 from Napoleon's sister, Pauline Borghese.

It has entertained sovereigns and statesmen, generals and socialites. Oscar Wilde dined here, as did Proust, who refused to take his coat off throughout dinner. Lizst gave music lessons to the ambassador's daughter, Lady Diana Cooper charmed *le tout Paris* and Baroness Thatcher stayed there on the night of the fateful leadership ballot. She would have slept in a bedroom with a view of the embassy gardens, the only grass tennis court in central Paris and a floodlit Henry Moore.

Sir Christopher lives in the 18th-century palace, which he refers to as "my house", and works in the palace next door. He is the epitome of British diplomacy: reserved, impersonal, with a profound knowledge of European issues and a determination to further British interests.

By nine, he is calling up the morning's telegrams on his computer, confidential information that puts a British spin on the news from London and other embassies. Paris receives 150 a day and sends about five. Today Washington has details of President Chirac's forthcoming visit, there is an analysis of the Pentagon's views of air strikes on Serb targets, and the Foreign Office is announcing British support for the comprehensive test-ban treaty.

At 9.45am, he moves to another chandeliered room, for the morning meeting. Twenty men and three women brief the ambassador on each department's activities, while he relays lobbying instructions from London. The finance section is asked to prepare a report for London on the coming French budget. The Information Counsellor must organise publicity for Michael Portillo's visit later that month.

At 11.30am, the ambassador is driven to Bon Marché, the department store on the Left Bank, which is running an English promotion, persuading the French to wear kilts and Barbours and eat Hovis and Devon double cream. He fingers Harris tweeds and admires the display of Scotch eggs and dons a royal-familyish look of intense interest and asks questions in immaculate French.

> 'If we shut down the French would think us absurd'

"Helping exporters is about one third of my job," he says, as we return to the embassy in a Jaguar. His armoured Rolls-Royce is waiting for him in Bordeaux, which he will visit tomorrow. The embassy dispensed with bodyguards after the IRA ceasefire. This year he has hosted a lunch for the second Paris branch of Marks & Spencer and a fashion show for Vivienne Westwood. "This is the loveliest embassy in Paris and the idea is to impress the pants off the French," says Sir Christopher.

He shrugs off suggestions that the embassy's annual running cost, six times that of Brussels, is excessive. "To give up the embassy would do us no end of harm — it would make the French think we were perfectly ridiculous."

An entertainment allowance of £149,000 is paid into Sir Christopher's account and regulated by his French wife, Pascale. Every bottle of wine and cocktail onion served in the course of representational duty must be accounted for. Today, the ambassador was meant to be wooing François Baroin, the government spokesman, over lunch in the glazed gallery. Baroin cancels and Sir Christopher must watch me prodding at a paper packet stuffed with fish. "I think you eat it like this," he says.

At 3pm, Sir Christopher is interviewed by *Sud Ouest*, a daily newspaper, about the Bordeaux visit. The key question is why is the "*monde Anglo-Saxon*" so hostile to nuclear testing? Sir Christopher has been limbering up for this. "We have got to make the French grateful for our support on this issue," he said at the morning meeting. "Why do you think we are hostile?" he exclaims, looking hurt. "We are also a nuclear power, we understand that tests have to be done every now and then." The next day the article appears under the headline: "*Aucun boycott de produits français.*"

At 3.30pm there is another meeting: this time with the director of the British Council in Paris, to discuss Entente Cordiale, an Anglo/French scholarship scheme. Which public figures will support the scheme? "He's no good, he's a socialist and they are not in power." "It needs to be someone who's not a minister, not a Balladurian, not ancient."

A new assistant air attaché has joined the embassy, the ambassador takes tea with him in his office and they discuss air displays and war memorial ceremonies. "We do our best to remind the French about the war," says Sir Christopher. "Last summer we sent a group of Welsh guardsmen around the country and their height and uniforms impressed everyone."

It is 5pm and time for the last engagement of the day. ERF, a British truck firm, is in town for the motor show and is holding a reception in the embassy. The ambassador and his wife form a receiving line, footmen circle with trays of gin and tonics, the ERF chairman makes a speech. Sir Christopher makes a discreet exit: there are more telegrams to read and send, reports to be scanned, letters to be signed and decisions to be made.

TWO LIVES, TWO EMBASSIES

- Beirut: Maeve Fort, CMG, 54. Ambassador to Lebanon since 1992. Educated Nantwich and Acton GS, Trinity College Dublin, Sorbonne. Ambassador (non-resident, too dangerous) to Chad 1987-89; to Mozambique 1989-92.
- Staff: Seven, plus 21 locally engaged. Cook, houseboy, part-time butler. Team of Royal Military Police bodyguards. Cost of post: £2.207 million.
- Long-term objectives include "to contribute to a successful conclusion of the Middle East Peace Process".

- Paris: Sir Christopher Mallaby, 59. Ambassador to France since 1993. Educated Eton and Cambridge. Ambassador to Germany 1988-92.
- Staff: 80, plus 195 locally engaged employees. Three footmen, cook (French), butler, gardener. Cost of post: £16.7 million, of which £4 million is notional rent as FCO owns freehold.
- Long-term objectives for 1995 include "to keep goading the French so that the plan for the statue of Churchill on the Champs Elysées is realised".

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Old Tory, new Labour, now what?

Byron Criddle on the major parties' changing characters

The *season of mists* and fruitless conferences exposes the parties in their *bare essentials. Roy* Hattersley's standing ovation in the education debate last week at Brighton came courtesy of Labour's public-sector schoolteacher delegates. This week at Blackpool, pinstriped professionals will turn politely *to the chair before and after* their carefully sculpted orations. The public-sector ethos *of Labour, the public-school* ambience of the Conservatives: these are stereotypes each party nurtures of the other, but how well do their *MPs* and candidates match these images?

For decades now, Labour *has been the party of the* public sector, the more so as the proportion of MPs from *manual working backgrounds* has shrunk, to just 22 per cent of the parliamentary party in 1992. The public sector prevails, whether in the guise of the traditional teachers, lecturers and social workers, or officials in public sector unions, or that of leading municipal figures such as the Sheffield MPs David Blunkett and Clive *Betts*, who *built* parliamentary careers straight up out of the local council.

Of Labour's new candidates now being selected in the *60 key seats it must* win to secure a majority, only one or two *are not from* such backgrounds. They appear to fit the *stereotype* of Labour as a "tax and spend" party which helped it to lose in 1992.

But this time two things are different. Tony Blair and Gordon Brown are making clear their commitment to financial prudence and the need for "tough decisions". And Labour's public sector lily is being *gilded by a process of feminis*ation, which distracts attention from "tax and spend" cari*catures and focuses on the* greater representativeness of Labour as a party which, with a *parliamentary majority*, would have 80 women MPs to the Tories' probable 11.

Virtually all Labour's *new* women candidates are drawn from the public sector, but in vaunting the politics of gender they potentially appeal to the women who re-elected John Major in 1992, and to the young for whom sex equality counts for *immeasurably* more than the old Labour politics of class and Clause Four. *Labour women* were also conspicuously used at Brighton to tidy up the party's act. *Clare Short was given the* task of driving the stake through the hard Left's heart *in her denunciation of the* unfrocked candidate Liz Davies; and Siobhain McDonagh (the candidate for Mitcham and Morden) roundly dispatched Arthur Scargill. Labour's women — however they were picked — cannot be attacked without risk of seeming misogynist.

At Blackpool this week, *women will also be much in* evidence as *delegates*, but they are drawn from older, traditionalist age-groups and are notorious for refusing to pick successful professional women as *candidates*.

With no woman yet selected for the 20 Conservative-held seats with retiring MPs, Dame Angela Rumbold, vice-chairman in charge of the candidates list, *is left wringing her* hands on the sidelines, and contemplating her own pos*sible defeat. In her Central* Office role, Dame Angela has called for more candidates *with hands-on business exper*tise and fewer youthful "clones" — the former apparatchiks, lobbyists and PR consultants who have been on the increase in recent Tory intakes. So far, four of the 20 new candidates are from such backgrounds.

Many MPs are self-employed consultants and lobby*ists* whose business is designed to finance their careers as professional politi*cians*. *Likewise*, Labour's ranks are swelling with party staffers straight out of Walworth Road or union officialdom. On both sides, fewer and fewer MPs are professional or business people doing a spot of politics; rather they want to *build and sustain* careers in politics. So will Labour's MPs from the public *sector*, cramming the benches in the next House, rebel if Gordon Brown is too tight on *public spending*, or will they rather sit tight and cultivate *their parliamentary* careers?

Ever fewer Tories are from major public schools

The decline in the *number of Conser*vative MPs from traditional high-status *professions* is showing up in the educational profile of the Tory benches, where only six out of ten are public-school men (down from 75 per cent in 1970). Only half of the 20 new candidates in Conservative-held seats were at public school, with minor ones moe common than the more *famous academies*.

Eton, for example, now accounts for only one in ten of *all Tory MPs, compared with* nearly one in five in 1970. In the next House, if 60 seats are *lost, the party will be reduced* from 34 Etonians to 23 (or 9 per cent of a 270-strong parlia*mentary party). Only one new* Etonian, Oliver Letwin, has been chosen, while eight are retiring and three more, including Winston Churchill, are likely to lose.

As the captains and the *kings depart, the party* moves down to meet its leader from Worcester Park *and his* "*classless society*". The many small businessmen and women who pepper the floor at Blackpool this week and choose the parliamentary can*didates are not yet choosing* people exactly in their own image — deference is not quite *dead — but nor are they opting* for the elaborately eocuted vowels of Sir Patrick Mayhew *or the apologetically Etonian* Douglas Hurd.

These choices look increas*ingly likely to push the party* ideologically further from the One Nation Conservatism of Patrick Mayhew and Douglas Hurd, while the rival "public sector" and "public school" preconceptions of the parties explain less and less.

The writer is co-author of The Almanac of British Politics.

SETTING CONFERENCE ALIGHT

Like Paddy in long pants

Major must decide whether to govern well, or merely win the next election

Simon Jenkins

Those *who listen to the black* box recorders of crashing planes are mesmerised by *the calmness of the cockpit*. They hear switches rattling, levers being pulled, a frantic search for *response from a technology that is* hastening them to death. Each man does his job like a robot until the final silence.

Seeing John Major on the platform at Blackpool, I sense just such a robot. His face has none of the artifice of optimism. The dome of hair, the eyes blinking behind glasses, the nervous body language, all suggest the same cry: "What else can I do?"

The machine does not respond. Nothing works. Whatever he touches, the dive gets steeper and the ground rushes closer. *I believe that* John Major could still conceivably win a 1996/97 election, but only *because anything can happen in* politics. Favourites can always stumble. In 1963 Lord Home was elected *leader of an exhausted, defeatist* Tory party. At the next election he brought it within half a dozen MPs of *victory. He almost won. But in his* genial way, Home and his party wanted to win.

In the real world, far *from* the inanities of Blackpool, two factions are now fighting over the remaindered stock of 1980s Toryism. One is a group, primarily composed of *politicians, whose natural instinct is* electioneering. It sees winning and keeping power as the defining strategy of any Conservative Party. Nothing else matters, not good government nor sound money. This "*victory party*" *is most readily identi*fied with both Mr Major and Michael Heseltine. Their ammuni*tion is the big spending department* programmes and the patronage and publicity they can muster. Before *most* elections, they win the argument.

The programme is simple. It holds that Mr Major is an asset since he typifies Middle Britain. He must court the centre ground and crush the Right. There must be no more attacks on the unemployed, single mothers, divorcees, the homeless and migrant workers, no more gloating over prisons, punishments, privatisation *and fat cat salaries. Mr Major must*, in the language of Alan Howarth, set himself firmly against the heartless and unfair tendencies. They vote Tory anyway.

This victory party demands that the Cabinet go for broke. It offers *comfort to such electoral floaters as* teachers, doctors, academics and administrators. If this is expensive, too bad. The strain need not show on central taxes if local ones are uncapped and over-spending is blamed on Labour councils. If all this increases borrowing, what is new? We are grown-ups. The party won the last three elections by engineering a boom. Would it rather have lost them? There is no virtue in honourable defeat, and the price of victory can be paid by some other fool later.

This makes the second faction's hair go grey. The "responsible party" cares little who *wins the next elec*tion. Based at the Treasury and com*posed of officials*, bankers and certain Machiavellis of the *Tory Right, this* group is slowly distancing itself from Mr Major and his spendthrift cabal.

Sound government is its prime concern, not a Tory victory next year. It abhors the prospect of a pre-election boom, and wants only a smooth transition to a new regime. It is already accepting and discounting *Tony Blair and Gordon Brown*, and looks forward to a Portillo administration in 2001.

This faction holds that last spring the Treasury was dealt an unplayable deck of cards by Downing Street. It *was told to protect spending on* health, defence, law and order and education, and also find a cheaper welfare *state, without risking the* charge of curbing it. Public expenditure was to be cut, borrowing was to fall and room was to be found for big tax cuts before the election. This nonsense reached its climax at the much vaunted September 14 Cabinet at Chequers — an event more significant than anything happening at Blackpool.

This meeting was by all accounts a *shambles of staffwork. The public* was variously told that it was an all-day session for the party manifesto, *or a long-term review of the welfare* state, or more head-bashing for the public spending round. Ministers were hamfistedly ordered by Mr Major's aide, Norman Blackwell, to bring "three election-winning ideas" (they thought that was his job). This game of Trivial Pursuit quickly degenerated into farce, as ministers realised their budgets were at risk.

What emerged to public view was a Cabinet no longer capable of discussing long-term policy choices, for instance on pensions, health and welfare. It was too immersed in contemplating its own image. *A call* from Fleet Street, a rumour of a row and everybody rushes to the phone. *The responsible faction learnt the* lesson of Chequers. It was that this Government cannot *operate to coherent* strategy. Downing Street merely rents *out a field on which* the Treasury and spending depart*ments can joust*. Mr Major will not even be umpire. All he does is occasionally make policy, freelance, as last month over education.

In these circumstances, Cabinet members naturally look to their futures. Each attack from the Treasury is met by ministers assuring the world that they are "playing tough". *Last weekend it was the turn of the* Department of National Heritage to protest at the attempted theft of Lottery proceeds. Who cares *if it spoils* the start of the party conference? Blackpool is tiddlywinks. This is war.

These are the real politics of Britain, of taxing and spend*ing, of rewarding some and* punishing others. Witness the row over income tax cuts in next month's Budget. The *pundits* are agreed: there should be no tax cut. Public spending and borrowing are too high. Kenneth Clarke could not get a Treasury speechwriter to pen any other view. A flurry of excitement occurred last week when £4 billion was found loose in the balances of the former nationalised utilities. Five years ago the Treasury would have had that money in its pocket before *you could say PAYE. It would mean* 2p off income tax. But only the victory party wants that now. To the responsible party, tax *cuts can go hang*.

The Treasury is finding devious partners. Defeatism is now widespread in junior government ranks and on the backbenches. As courtiers await a monarch's death, they must judge the moment to saddle their horses and race to side with his successor. Ambitious young Tories must think ahead. If Mr Major is not the Tory leader in two years time, Michael Portillo is most likely to succeed him. What will most help him win in 2001? The answer is not just a Major defeat in 1996/97, but defeat amid an aura of fiscal integrity to contrast with the spendthrift Mr Blair.

This is the insidious treachery that seeps into the veins of a dying government. Why abandon fiscal caution, asks the Treasury, as hap*pened in 1974, and endure two years* of agony trying to restore the public finances under Labour? The real *cause of the 1976 IMF crisis was pre*-election decisions of the Heath administrations. Better by far a pre-*emptive strike* both against Mr Major and against Gordon Brown's first Budget. Thus is Mr Major *already victim of his enemies*.

These are hard times. Mr Major sits bereft of wise advice, attended by lowly civil servants, sycophant courtiers and consultants with no experience of politics. Usually a leader weak in personality *surrounds* himself with tough aides. Mr Major's Downing Street team is weak through and through, unable to telegraph discipline round the Cabinet or its *Departments of State. For* the public the result is refreshing: Whitehall wars are open to view. Each week we *learn* of new arguments over nursery vouchers, opted out schools, privatised prisons, the raid *on the Lottery. The Treasury* claimed last week to be "carefully costing Tony Blair's promises to the *nation*". *What it is secretly costing* are the promises being made by Mr Major's policy unit. That would be *the big leak*.

Mr Major cannot resolve these arguments because he does not know what he really believes. He is decency personified. He can chair a committee and shake hands. *He can adopt a* Prince of Wales frown. He is wet but dry, soft but hard. His conference speech on Friday will be the usual concoction of lapidary pledges and clichés. He will believe passionately, *but in nothing in particular. He has* become Paddy Ashdown in long trousers. Back home the mice are at play. He *accepts that they are now rats*.

Alan Coren

■ When it comes to immortality, it's Trafalgar Square or — er — bust

Do you recall that chill*ing moment* in Sartre's *Huis Clos* when the three dead (but talkative) inhab*itants of the hell that is other* people suddenly hear the unmistakable noise of instant bricklaying, and, running to the window of the small hotel room in which they are doomed to spend eternity, find it is now a solid wall? Understandably agitated — *for if you are spending* eternity in a small hotel room, it is nice to have a bit of a view — *they inquire why the window* has been bricked up, and are told that it is because there is now nobody in the mortal world who remembers them. Their name liveth for nevermore. Like Monty Python's parrot, they are ex-people.

No wonder it's a *chilling* moment: we troop shivering from the theatre, able to think of *nothing but our perishability*. How long, in our case, will it be before the sands of time refill *our shallow footprints? How* long will it take, after our revels end, for not a rack to be left *behind? How long before* Time's ever-rolling stream bears away us whose names are writ in water? And how long will I go on teasing you like this when I have joyously positive answers so readily to hand?

For see, here on the *desk* before me lies the shimmering prospectus of something *entitled* Carlton Forge! And, do you know, it has flown all the way from Salem, *Oregon, to offer me a cockshy* at imperishability for less that the cost of a small family saloon? *Why they have selected me I* cannot be certain, but a shrewd guess would be that it is yet *another benefit of my inclusion*, willy-nilly, in umpteen of those self-styled major reference *works* which canny *American* publishers cobble for the purpose of milking the vain. It works like this: one day your byline appears in the United States in an airmail edition of *The Times*, the next you are given notice that you are now in a major reference work entitled *Honchos of Distinction* or *Top Bananas of Our Time*, or countless other catchpenny spin-offs of *Who's Who*, which you are then offered at the incredible Achiever's Discount of *$200* so that it may grace your corporate office or home den on a shelf of its own ($150) beneath a personalised plaque ($300) stating that you, as a leading *human being*, are included in the book beneath.

Many Americans go for this, *because there is no point waiting* around for posterity to honour you if you can get it done now *this minute for a few hundred* bucks; but even if you do not buy the book and its tasteful accoutrements, *you are foreverafter* a target for mailshots offering you further opportunities to make yourself honoured and famous. And now Carlton Forge will enable you to make yourself imperishable. Just send them a dozen assorted studio photographs and $10,000, and they will make a life-size statue of you, "in indestructible bronze-*finished material*". To include, since you ask, a handsome plinth.

Shall I have one of me? Believe me, I am tempted. I have even worked on my pose, before the glass: brooding *like Gladstone*, leaning on my cane like Churchill, raising my hat like Prince Albert, bandying *my legs* and imagining an indestructible bronze-finish horse between, and pondering where I should be sited for best immemorial effect. Hang on, you cry, surely you can be sited only in your Cricklewood garden, it is merely a matter of choosing to be beside the fishpond or over *there by the shed?* You do not realise how wrong you are. They know a thing or two about imperishability up Carlton Forge, they appreciate that when my house is posthumously *sold*, the new owners could well bung me on *the skip to make* way for a nice carport, and they have the answer.

The answer is a further $5,000. That is all it would cost if I chose to be sited not in my own backyard but "*on one of* hundreds of plots worldwide which we have purchased for clients who *may wish to be* on more public view". Imagine posterity coming round some corner of a foreign *veldt to find me*, imperishably pith-helmeted, with a nice bit of Kipling on my plinth! Truly, hell's *window* would never brick up for me. The world would talk of me till hell itself froze over. All that's holding me and my $15,000 back is what it would say.

Howarth's way

THE TORIES believe they have discovered a secret influence behind Alan Howarth's decision to defect to new Labour.

At first it was thought to be his glamorous parliamentary "pair", Margaret Hodge, the former leader of Islington council. Now the name on everybody's lips is that of *the elegant, flame-haired* Labour peer, Baroness Hollis of Heigham.

Patricia Hollis, a life peer and *former Labour leader on Norfolk* City Council, is the Opposition's spokesman on social security in the *Upper House. She works frequent*ly with Howarth at Westminster in the parliamentary groups on the disabled and homelessness. *Her* left-of-centre political stance appears closely akin to Howarth's new-found ideology.

They have been *seen* dining together inside and outside Westminster, and this has inevitably led *colleagues to speculate* that Hollis helped to woo the dissident Stratford-on-Avon MP to cross the floor *of the Commons*.

Hollis says: "My contacts with Alan Howarth were really over the *Disability Bill, which we both* supported. It is absurd to suggest anything else."

Howarth is equally touchy: "I have many friends across the whole of the political spectrum. Any intimation of an improper relationship will be dealt with extremely firmly."

Baroness Hollis

● *A colleague fighting the flab at Grayshott Hall health farm in Hindhead, Surrey, paused for breath the other day and his gaze fell upon a vision in a bathrobe. He insists it was Emma Thompson, the actress who has just split up from her husband Kenneth Branagh, booking a rejuvenating facial.*

Euro snore

THE FOREIGN Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, was forced to raise his voice at the Blackpool conference *yesterday, when a stentorian* rumbling split the air and threatened to drown out his speech on "*Foreign Policy and Europe*".

A Conservative councillor by the name of Ron Cook was fast asleep *on the floor* at the back of the auditorium, conference papers fluttering in his breeze. He remained oblivious to prods and *shakes* of angry delegates: "People were pummelling him, but he stayed resolutely asleep," said one. "He was snoring like a walrus."

Maxwell's ass

TAKING a break from the Old Bailey, Kevin Maxwell has summoned the law to help him to search for an ass called Merlin. Police are *hunting* for the donkey, which has disappeared from his Oxfordshire home.

The Maxwells were providing accommodation for the beast, which belonged to an itinerant *odd-job man who has been work*ing as a gardener for the Maxwells at Moulsford Manor, near Wal*lingford*. But in the early hours of Monday Merlin vanished as mysteriously as a pension fund. "There was the noise of a vehicle next to the paddock about 2am, although it was not until later that we realised Merlin had gone," sobbed Pandora Maxwell.

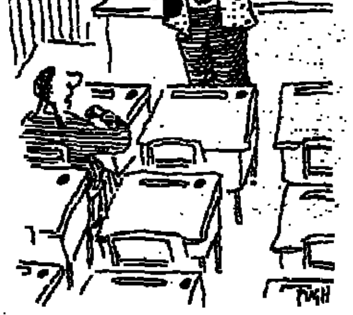
● *Buzz Aldrin made it to the Moon but he was foiled yesterday by the French strike. He failed to appear at a television sales conference in Cannes to launch a programme about Cape Canaveral for which he acted as a consultant.*

"He's stranded somewhere en route but we don't know exactly where," said a spokesman.

Battle royal

THERE COULD be bloody scenes in Prince Edward's forthcoming election battle to become honorary president of Stirling University. *The mature student* who is standing against him turns out to have been a former member of the *Scottish National* Liberation Army who says his fellow students "deserve better than Prince Edward to represent them".

The third-year sociology student, Ben Goodwin, 36, also claims to have been a Special Branch agent. "When I joined the SNP you could say I fell in with a bad crowd, and I quickly realised what was going on," he says. "I went to the police to tell them what I knew, and they asked me if I would stay in the group, as an informant. That's when I was recruited into the Special Branch." Let's hope the Prince knows what he is up against.



"Monsieur, everybody is on strike"

Snoop scoop

THERE WAS an ugly skirmish at a party thrown by Angus Mackinnon, the *new editor of GQ*, at Vogue House on Monday night.

Relations between the two men's *magazines had thawed since* the sudden death of Michael Vermeulen, *GQ's* larger-than-life former editor, and an *Esquire* delegation was invited to the party to honour the American author Walter Mosley's new novel, *RL's Dream*.

"But then I came across one of them in the office trying to look at December's flatplan," says a Condé Nast spokeswoman. "I led him out. Maybe he got lost on the way to the men's room but he didn't say anything."

P·H·S

ON FLOOR AND FRINGE

The voices against European integration are loud and clearer

There was a strong sense of direction among Conservatives at Blackpool yesterday. From conference floor and fringe, Michael Portillo and John Redwood dominated events. They articulated the European policy that party representatives wanted to hear. They set the tone that the conference will want to hear from the Prime Minister. And they set it in a context of scathing attacks on Labour rather than scabrous remarks about colleagues.

Fired by the success of Labour's conference last week, and aware that the general election is drawing nearer, the Tories are trying hard to retarget the Opposition. Their skills are in need of further honing. Hyperbole was the most used trick in their rhetorical handbook. But the spirit has begun to return. All those on the party's Euro-sceptic wing have reason for confidence. With a new Foreign Secretary, who spoke with reason and power yesterday, and the shift in foreign policy that his words made clear, they can rightly claim that the Government is moving their way.

Events outside Blackpool have continued to help their cause. Economic integration is disintegrating fast. As the *franc fort* becomes daily closer to a *franc faible*, we can all once again pose that great linguistic question: what is the French word for *Schadenfreude*? The prospect of monetary union happening as planned in 1999 draws ever more distant. Whatever their true views of Europe's turmoil, however, the Tory triumphalists need to avoid excessive and premature celebrations. There is still a chance that Chancellor Kohl and President Chirac will stitch together a last-minute deal. More importantly, Tory supporters need to be reminded that such a chance exists.

If the prospect of a single currency were to vanish altogether, then a Blair government would seem a much less dangerous proposition. Those Tories for whom Europe is the key issue of our time might think it safe to switch allegiance. The best hope for John Major is that monetary union stays a distinct enough possibility for him to be able to draw a sharp contrast between his party and Mr Blair's. He could then promise not to join a single currency, at least during the lifetime of the next Parliament.

Such a promise would be entirely consonant with the traditionally cautious approach towards Europe that Britain has always adopted. Nobody yet knows whether membership of a single currency would or would not be in this country's economic interests. If it were as self-evidently good for Britain as its proponents suggest, then France and Germany would not be so worried about countries gaining advantage from remaining outside it. Aside from the constitutional problems of ceding sovereignty over monetary policy, it makes sense in pure economic terms to wait a few years and see. Even the Chancellor of the Exchequer should be able to agree with that.

If, as appears increasingly unlikely, a single currency were to be achieved in 1999, any sensible government with an opt-out would want to let it run for three years or so before deciding whether to join. This would conveniently take Britain up to the date of the following general election. A pledge to stay out in the next Parliament would thus be a moderate and perfectly defensible idea.

The party in the country is in favour: one of the loudest bursts of applause in the foreign policy debate at Blackpool yesterday was for a representative who said "it is time that we ruled out a single currency altogether." Most of the parliamentary Conservative Party would support it. The only real opposition is in the Cabinet.

If Mr Major is worried about making such a pledge, it is because he fears the reaction of Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine, men who argue that Britain would lose influence in designing the currency if it announced now that it would not join in 1999. This is a poor substitute for reason: all the important decisions have already been made. The Prime Minister called the leadership contest in July so that he could reassert his authority. If he does not feel strong enough to do so now, then that contest was in vain.

CANTERBURY AND KHARTOUM

Dr Carey stands up for Sudan's Christians

The Archbishop of Canterbury is an equable man, not known normally for rousing a crowd to great fervour. Yet Dr George Carey revealed on Sunday that his character has a passionate dimension as well as a compassionate one. Addressing some 75,000 Sudanese Christians at an open-air service in the war-scarred town of Juba, Dr Carey demanded religious tolerance from the regime in Khartoum. He castigated the Islamic Government of General Omar Hassan al-Bashir for its policy towards Christians — one of "torture, rape, destruction of property, slavery and death", as well as forcible conversion to Islam. And he challenged those responsible for such behaviour to stop. "It is no part of any creed to treat fellow human beings with such disrespect and cruelty," the archbishop said.

Dr Carey deserves the greatest support and encouragement in his crusade on behalf of Sudan's subjugated Christians. His unofficial visit to the south of the country in December 1993 — his first as archbishop — attracted the hostility of General al-Bashir's benighted regime. This time he visited Sudan as a guest of the Government, and was able to attack, in Khartoum itself, the oppression of the Christian minority. "The list of grievances which Christians feel is long and heavy," he told his hosts. "Religious tolerance, which should be at the heart of any civilised nation, is not being granted to them."

Dr Carey should be congratulated for his bluntness of word and deed. He spoke out against an evil regime in its own territory; and he sought out those brave priests and leaders who daily battle for the survival of their dwindling Christian communities. "You have had to survive out in the bush," he told them, "hunted and hated." But he marvelled also at their unbroken spirit and the strength of their faith. The archbishop called on General al-Bashir's regime to channel this resilience in a spirit of reconciliation.

Such reconciliation can only come with a moderation of Khartoum's Sharia-based methods. Sudan is a multi-ethnic, multi-religious country: to attempt to rule all its citizens by the strictest Islamic tenets, whether Muslim, Christian or animist, can result only in tyranny. "Islam is not to be feared, but a process of Islamicisation imposed on a nation undermines fundamental freedoms," said Dr Carey.

It is very likely that these criticisms will be ignored by the country's Islamic regime. General al-Bashir's spiritual mentor, Hassan al-Turabi, has spoken repeatedly of a "resurgence of Islamic energy through Jihad". Al-Turabi is the de facto leader of Sudan, and there could be no gulf greater than that which lies between him and Dr Carey. But the Archbishop of Canterbury, by his visit and by his expression of human solidarity, has at least shown that there is no gulf between a vigilant Anglican Church and Sudan's own suffering Christians.

EQUINE OPPORTUNITIES

Not so much a professorial chair, more of a regius saddle

Today Cambridge University gazettes the appointment of the first professor of equine reproduction. Professor "Twink" Allen is to take the Jim Joel Chair, endowed by a philanthropic and philippic diamond merchant from South Africa. This is an elevation that we take on trust to be wholly deserved. Certainly, it is in the right place.

The younger of the two ancient universities has been modernist in its studies since the Renaissance. It already has chairs in such forward-looking disciplines as animal welfare and international macroeconomics. If the chair had been founded at Oxford, undergraduates might have had to learn Greek in order to trace the bloodlines of Pherenikos, "bringer of victory", in Pindar's Olympian Odes. And prelims would have stopped at the 16th century, with the importation of Barbs from Italy and Spain by Henry VIII.

But the lucky veterinary undergraduates at Cambridge are going to study this profitable branch of their science at the stirrups of a modern racing master. In his previous work for the Thoroughbred Breeder's Association at Newmarket, Professor Allen cured Celtic Ring of barrenness to give birth to Celtic Swing, and helped Dancing Brave recover from Marie's disease to sire Commander in Chief, the Derby-winner of two years ago. He has done much stud reproductive work for Sheikh Mohammed.

His new chair has every right to the ancient prefix regius. Henry VIII and some of his descendants may have shown a passing interest in such disciplines as theology and classics. But they have all been passionately interested in racing, and the Queen and her mother are still as knowledgeable about the sport as anybody else in their kingdoms. In all but title, Charles II was the first Cambridge horse professor, and became known as the father of the English turf because of the King's Plates, his races that made Newmarket the headquarters of racing.

Horse breeding is a very old, complex science. Studbooks and bloodlines meander back more than three centuries to the three "Oriental" stallions and 43 "royal mares" imported by Charles II, from which all thoroughbreds are said to descend. To a philistine, reproduction might seem a simpler study in fleas, which also jump and can wear saddles in flea circuses. Their reproductive cycle is so much quicker than the 11 months a mare is pregnant. But the romance and beauty of a galloping horse, captured by painters, photographers and poets, is a humaner science and well worthy of its chair.

Chance and skill win card-playing; chance and knowledge win at racing. But fortunately horse knowledge will always be susceptible to error of the kind that makes humans call horses peculiar names — especially if they fail to finish in the first three. May its new chair keep Cambridge as the market leader in horse reproduction, while adding to the sum of human knowledge. But its scholarship must never become infallible. For if Professor Allen and his department were to breed the unbeatable horse, such certainty would destroy the point of the sport of kings — and of professors.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Repercussions of Howarth's move

From Mrs Juliet Tofield

Sir, While I applaud Alan Howarth's brave decision to stand up for his views and change parties (letters, October 10), I cannot help reflecting that there is every possibility it has taken the personal tragedy of having a disabled son to make him empathise with the many people in this country who have been adversely affected by successive Tory governments. It should not be necessary to be a victim of Tory social policies to understand the resulting hardships, and deplore them on other people's behalf.

One can only hope that the publicity given to Mr Howarth's defection will wake up enough habitual Tory voters to see more clearly what has been happening to many people for years.

Yours faithfully,
JULIET TOFIELD,
12 Highfield Road,
Newbury, Berkshire.

From Mr Denis MacShane, MP for Rotherham (Labour)

Sir, Lord Beloff (letter, October 10) was not listening to the same debate on education at the Labour Party conference that I and all other delegates heard. While it is true that some speakers used the language of very old Labour, the vast majority spoke in favour of diversity and excellence in schools.

Ironically, the most powerful speaker against the Labour Party policy said that standards did not count as much as structures. This is almost exactly the Tory line which has favoured segregated education for social and class reasons at the expense of high standards for all children, irrespective of the financial status of their parents. However the views of that gentleman were strongly repudiated by 75 per cent of all the conference delegates, who endorsed the line put forward by Tony Blair and David Blunkett.

After 16 years of Conservative Secretaries of State for Education Britain now lies 35th in world league tables for global comparative performance in education and training. Lord Beloff might care to ponder that alarming fact before he criticises Alan Howarth. One-nation Britain cannot be built by the segregated school structure promoted by Mr Major and Mrs Shephard.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS MacSHANE,
House of Commons.
October 10.

From Mr Alan Blyth

Sir, Thank you, Libby Purves ("The new wind of change", October 10) for expressing so cogently the mood of so many in the country for a new morality in politics. What the current Tory party will not, probably cannot, understand is that we want people of Alan Howarth's sympathetic, caring mould running the country rather than the likes of Michael Howard, John Redwood and Michael Portillo.

The stark contrast of Howarth's honesty and plain-dealing with the mean minds of those who are trying to rubbish him says it all.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN BLYTH,
22 Shilling Street, Lavenham, Suffolk.

From Mrs M. S. Kearsley

Sir, Mr Howarth has made much of what he sees as "arrogance" in his criticism of this Government.

What was more arrogant than his assumption that the seat of Stratford-upon-Avon was his to give away without consulting the electors who voted for him as their Conservative MP?

Yours faithfully,
M. S. KEARSLEY,
Kenworthy House,
Upper Church Street,
Cuddington, Buckinghamshire.

From Mr R. J. Clifford

Sir, As one of Alan Howarth's constituents who has known him since he first represented Stratford-upon-Avon I cannot criticise him for deciding that his own personal views are now closer to those of the Labour than the Conservative Party. That is his prerogative, and I sympathise with the mental anguish he must have undergone in reaching that decision, having been elected by a substantial majority of Conservative voters.

I also accept that Members of Parliament are not the delegates of those who vote for them, but are entitled to exercise their own judgment on specific issues which arise in Parliament. However, it seems to me that Alan Howarth has taken a step which goes well beyond this and that the only honourable course is for him now to resign his seat and stand again under his new colours.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. CLIFFORD,
Little Manor,
Haselor, Nr Alcester, Warwickshire.

From Dr T. D. J. Chappell

Sir, If the reason why Alan Howarth should resign and seek re-election is because he has broken faith with those who elected him, then John Major had better resign and seek re-election too.

Yours faithfully,
T. D. J. CHAPPELL,
University of East Anglia,
School of Economic and
Social Studies,
Norwich NR4 7TJ.
October 10.

Obligations of external examiners

From Mr T. F. Powys-Lybbe

Sir, Dr Tony Greenfield (letter, October 6) explained that he would not do external examining for £250 for five days' work plus £50 a day for reading scripts.

While anyone who knows the rates paid to consultants, notably by the Government itself, would share his decision, perhaps for most external examiners these are not the full facts. Surely they already have an income from their presumed university post? I find it most unlikely that they would refund to their normal employers their earnings for the time they spend on external examining. The external examiner's fees are solely to be seen as an addition to an agreed income.

Surely, Dr Greenfield owes it as a duty to his profession to sit as an external examiner, in order to maintain standards throughout the country, provided, of course, that sensible expenses are covered. Perhaps a small amount could be added for the inconvenience of being away. Fifty pounds a day sounds fair for that.

Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY POWYS-LYBBE,
Rosewood,
Church Road,
Winkfield, Windsor, Berkshire.
October 7.

From Professor John Brignell

Sir, Hurrah for Tony Greenfield, who had the temerity to turn down an invitation to be external examiner at a university. I was minded to do the same when I received my first such invitation 15 years ago. My then head of department took me to one side and gently explained that if we refused to do this service for others it would go round full circle, the system would break down and we would be unable to obtain suitable external examiners ourselves.

I have been on the rack ever since, doing weeks of extra gruelling work at a rate of pay one tenth of what I could get by industrial consultancy. I find it outrageous that my own university employs some of the world's leading authorities in this capacity and pays them an hourly rate lower than that given to office cleaners. Students who feel hard done by during summer examinations might give a thought to the hapless external examiner, whose spring was ruined by having to work through every question on every paper for every year.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. BRIGNELL,
Chalk Bank Cottage,
Broughton, Stockbridge, Hampshire.
October 7.

Inconsistencies in GCSE grades

From Professor David Burghes

Sir, Your report (October 9) regarding standards of exam grades may have given the impression that recent research undertaken at the Centre for Innovation in Mathematics Teaching at Exeter University referred to my work as chair of examiners of A-level mathematics at the Associated Examining Board. This is not the case. Our recent research work has, at present, been confined to investigating standards of grading for GCSE mathematics across two exam groups with which I am in no way connected.

Our results, which have shown significant inconsistencies across the two exam groups, indicate to us that, with a common syllabus for GCSE exams, it would be much fairer to all concerned if the groups could combine into one large exam group, producing a single national exam for each subject.

Exam grades are crucial both for individuals, where particular grades can determine the direction of their careers, and for teachers and schools, since such importance is now attached to league tables based on grades achieved. A fair system is urgently needed. Combining the groups together for GCSE exams is not only fairer but simple and cost-effective, using the available expertise inside the groups more efficiently. The issues at A level, although just as important, are more complex since the exam boards do offer, to a certain extent, different syllabuses and hence genuine choice.

Yours sincerely,
D. N. BURGHES,
University of Exeter,
Centre for Innovation in
Mathematics Teaching,
School of Education, Exeter EX1 2LU.
October 10.

From the Secretary General of the Associated Examining Board

Sir, As chairman of examiners for A-level mathematics, Professor Burghes was more than satisfied that standards had been maintained at the Associated Examining Board. His only criticism was that we may have been slightly severe with the A grades in two syllabuses.

None of our GCSE examinations were used in his experiment, which found grade differences between two boards. I wonder if he will repeat this exercise in the university sector, of which he is a part?

Almost 50 per cent of the highest pass rate A-level syllabuses this year belonged to the now disbanded Oxford and Cambridge Board. Its demise, according to its former secretary, Howard King, was due to the fact that it was not prepared to compromise on standards. I know of no board that is. It was the predominant board for highest pass rates, yet failed to attract correspondingly high entries.

There is little correlation between two factors. Indeed, in this year's GCSE mathematics there is a negative correlation between the two. If raw statistics were to be taken at face value, this would mean that the more difficult the examination the more candidates a board is likely to attract.

However, a recent intensive six-month independent study conducted by the University of Newcastle upon Tyne concluded that the standards across the boards "were commendably equivalent".

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DAY, Secretary General,
The Associated Examining Board,
Stag Hill House, Guildford, Surrey.
October 10.

BBC 'at front line'

From Mrs Cynthia M. Manning

Sir, What is so special about BBC reporters that they "will not have to suffer their brief encounter with the alleged atrocities of Mrs Rosemary West for more than two days at a time" before they are deemed to need counselling (report, October 4)? Are the judge, jury, police, lawyers also to be counselled every two days? Surely their stress will be much greater.

Before these so-called counselling specialists emerged, such problems were discussed with one's family, trusted friends, the family doctor or the priest — people who knew the person in trouble and were therefore much better able to offer free help and advice.

In the event of there being no shoulder on which to shed one's tears, one struggled through on one's own. It was called growing up or learning to cope with adult life. As one grows older, one copes with emergencies, disasters, bereavements, other problems, as they arise. It's a sign of maturity.

Yours faithfully,
CYNTHIA M. MANNING,
12 Field Way,
Corfe Mullen, Wimborne, Dorset.
October 4.

Asthma treatment

From Dr Keith Alan Brent

Sir, I am concerned by the photograph, captioned "pupils with asthma inhalers are a common sight in our school playgrounds", which accompanies Dr James Le Fanu's article on asthma in children (Body and Mind, October 5).

The child depicted appears to be about five years old and has a metered dose inhaler. These devices require a degree of co-ordination which is almost invariably beyond any child. Metered dose inhalers can be used by children but they must breathe through a spacer device, a plastic cylinder between the inhaler and the mouth which enables the child to breathe normally and yet deliver a significant proportion of the drug to the lungs.

Without the spacer almost all of the drug is likely to be deposited uselessly (or even harmfully) in the mouth or exhaled. The alternatives, although probably applicable to an older child, are a dry-powder or breath-actuated device.

Yours faithfully,
K. A. BRENT,
8 The Paddocks,
Wembley Park, Middlesex.

Legal aid fees

From Mr Stanley Best

Sir, Your report, "Top-paid silk agrees to work for nothing" [October 9; letter, October 7], telling us that Peter Goldsmith, QC, Chairman of the Bar, "has personally accepted Tony Blair's challenge to professionals last week to work for nothing for three days a year" demonstrates how little Mr Blair and others recall the real lives of barristers and solicitors.

As a junior barrister I have, like many others, already worked more than three days for nothing this year and, again, like others, have done so for years. Barristers and solicitors working in what one establishment figure described as "the grotty end of the market", ie, for legally aided clients, are accustomed to having to do a lot for nothing and, when paid, being paid at abysmally low rates.

After chambers' fees and clerk's fees (office expenses to the uninitiated), travelling and hotel expenses out of London, the net fee per hour in most courts in legal aid matters is less (before tax is paid on our earnings) than the hourly rate charged by my garage for mechanics. Small wonder I cannot pay off my overdraft or mortgage since I am owed in fees more than £50,000, some dating back years.

Yours faithfully,
STANLEY BEST,
Glebe Cottage,
Broadwoodkelly, Winkleigh, Devon.
October 9.

Business letters, page 29

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

A keen eye for a literary winner

From Mr Peter Brooke, CH, MP for City of London and Westminster South (Conservative)

Sir, Philip Howard devoted an entire and eloquent column ("He also served though he never wrote a book", September 22) to the memorial service of Charles Monteith, the former chairman of Faber & Faber, at which Seamus Heaney gave the address.

The news (report, October 6) that Heaney is the new Nobel Laureate for Literature reminds us that Monteith, having published William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* after 19 other publishers had rejected it, asked Heaney if he might see his poetry with a view to publication, on the basis of seeing three poems in a small magazine.

Golding and Heaney have of course become the first two Laureates for Literature from these islands since Churchill and Beckett. Monteith would have been the first to salute their achievement but it was his imaginative and scholarly eye which first chose them, and it is only sad he did not live the few extra months to see his second barrel score.

Yours etc,
PETER BROOKE,
House of Commons.
October 7.

Poets on plates

From Mrs Shirley Mowbray

Sir, I share Lord Thomas's wish (letter, September 30; see also letters, October 5) to commemorate Britain's greatest writers in the year 2000. But let us not destroy statues of other great men. Surely it is more appropriate (and cheaper) to immortalise wordsmiths in their own words?

Couldn't we instal a Writers' Walk, like the wonderful one in Sydney? Every few yards from the Opera House to Circular Quay — a distance of about 400 yards — a brass plate in the pavement commemorates a writer, with an inspiring quotation from his works (usually about Australia or Sydney itself). Some of them moved me to tears.

Think how marvellous it would be to walk by the Thames and read, as you walk, what our greatest writers wrote about our "flower of cities all".

Yours faithfully,
SHIRLEY MOWBRAY,
2A Park Place Villas, W2.
September 30.

Coptic Orthodoxy

From Dr Samir Hakim

Sir, The Coptic Orthodox Church has been accused — wrongly — of being "monophysite", believing "that Christ had only one nature, His divine nature" (Andrew Bond's letter, October 4).

The Coptic Orthodox Church has believed throughout its history that the nature of Christ is the union of the divine nature of God and the human nature of man.

So He is complete in His divinity and also in His humanity. If our Lord had only one nature, divine or human, our redemption would not have been possible.

Yours sincerely,
SAMIR HAKIM
(Church secretary),
St Mark's Coptic Orthodox
Church Centre,
Links Street, Kirkcaldy, Fife.
October 7.

From the Metropolitan of Glastonbury

Sir, Mr Bond speaks of the rift between the Oriental and Eastern Orthodox churches in 451 but omits to mention the very significant theological agreement which has been achieved in the last decade.

The British Orthodox Church is a local church within the Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria ministering to the indigenous population, but it shares a common faith and tradition with our brethren among the Greek, Russian, Syrian, Armenian, Ethiopian, Romanian, Serbian and other Orthodox churches.

Since 1985 there has existed a Joint Commission of the Theological Dialogue between the two Orthodox families which has made very considerable progress towards eventual reunion.

The recognition that there are two families, Eastern and Oriental, both faithfully adhering to the Orthodox faith, is something which is widely welcomed.

Yours etc,
SERAPHIM,
Metropolitan of Glastonbury,
British Orthodox Church,
10 Heathwood Gardens,
Charlton, SE7.
October 1.

Eye of the beholder

From Mrs B. J. Jones

Sir, Criticism of the portrait artist Henry Mee (article and photograph, September 29; letter, October 5) is not justified. It required great skill and perception on his part to show us what the Princess of Wales feels like first thing in the morning.

Yours sincerely,
JOAN JONES,
Greensleeves, Bellevue Lane,
Guilden Sutton, Chester.
October 7.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 10: The Princess Royal, Patron, the National Autistic Society, today attended the launch of the National Autistic Society/Development Trust Fund-raising Appeal at Sicklinghall, near Wetherby, North Yorkshire.

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, this evening attended the Corporate Members Presentation and Reception at Buckingham Palace.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 10: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, this afternoon visited the Royal Academy of Dancing, Battersea Square, London SW11, and presented The Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Award for Outstanding Service to Ballet to Sir Anthony Dowell.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 10: The Duchess of Gloucester was present this evening at a concert for Innocent Victims in aid of the Rosanna Hospital Appeal Kurdistan, in Westminster Abbey, London SW1.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 10: The Duke of Kent this morning visited St David's Home, Castlebar Hill, Ealing, London W5.

Captain Marcus Barnett was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent this evening attended a reception in aid of Canterbury Court Education Centre, at St James's Palace, London SW1.

Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent this afternoon visited St Bees Lifeboat Station, St Bees, Cumbria, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cumbria (Mr James Cropper).

Her Royal Highness later attended a reception given by the Penrith Branch of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, at "Brackenburgh", Calthwaite, Penrith, Cumbria.

Mrs Julian Tomkins was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
October 10: Princess Alexandra, President of the British School at Rome, accompanied by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, this evening attended a Private View of the oil studies and drawings of Winifred Knights at the Fine Art Society, 148 New Bond Street, London W1.

Her Royal Highness was represented by the Lady Mary Mumford at the Memorial Mass for Maggie Keswick Jenks which was held this afternoon in Westminster Cathedral, London SW1.

Birthdays today

Sir Godfrey Agnew, former Clerk of the Privy Council, 82; Sir Anthony Beaumont-Dark, former MP, 63; Miss Maria Bueno, tennis player, 56; the Hon Sir Adam Butler, former MP, 64; Sir Bobby Charlton, footballer, 58; Vice-Admiral Sir John Coward, 58; Miss Valerie Cumming, deputy director, Museum of London, 49; Sir Timothy Daunt, diplomat, 60; Sir Michael Edwardes, former chairman, British Leyland, 65; Miss Dawn French, actress and comedienne, 38; Mr Geoffrey Haslam, former chairman, Prudential Corporation, 81; Sir Denys Henderson, former chairman, ICI, 63; Mr Henry King, non-executive chairman, Rentokil Group, 59; Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McIntosh, 76; Mr Alan Pascoe, athlete, 48; Major-General F.J.C. Piggott, 85; Lord Prior, 68; Dame Diana Reader Harris, former Headmistress, Sherborne School for Girls, 83; Mr David Rendall, tenor, 47; Dame Paddy Ridsdale, 74; Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Stear, 57; Lord Tordoff, 67; Colonel Thomas H. Trevor, 84; Mr Thomas Wheare, Headmaster, Bryanston School, 51; Mr Tony Worthington, MP, 54.

Memorial service

Mr John Brady

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr John Brady, a director of the Baltic Exchange and Chairman of Louis Dreyfus Trading, was held yesterday at the Church of St Katharine Cree, EC3. The Rev Hugh Rom, Chaplain to the Baltic Exchange, officiated. Dom Placid Meylink, OSB, Prior of the Benedictine Monastery of Christ the King, Cockfosters, gave the blessing. Sister Deirdre Brady and Mr James Carruthers, a director of the Louis Dreyfus Company, read the lessons. Mr Alan H. Harper, chairman of the Baltic Exchange, gave the address. The choir of Lloyd's of London sang during the service.

Appointments

Mr Anthony Goodenough to be High Commissioner to Canada in succession to Sir Nicholas Bayne.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an Investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.

The Princess Royal, as Patron of the Association of Women's Royal Naval Service, will attend a 75th anniversary service in St Paul's Cathedral at 2.25, followed by a reception in the Chapter House; as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will attend the annual meeting and commodore's reception at the Four Seasons Hotel, London, at 4; and, as President of the Save the Children Fund, will attend a celebrity reception at Buckingham Palace at 6.30.

The Duchess of Gloucester will visit RAF Lossiemouth at 11.15.

The Duchess of Kent will visit Workington Lifeboat station at 11, and Silloth Lifeboat station at 2.10.

Princess Alexandra, as Vice-President of the British Red Cross, will present the Muriel Monkhouse award at the offices of the Financial Times, London SE1, at 6.

Lectures

Royal Over-Seas League

Lord Norwich was the speaker at a literary lecture of the Royal Over-Seas League held yesterday at Over-Seas House, St James's. Later Mr Robert Newell, director-general of the league, was the host at a reception.

Cheltenham Festival of Literature

Rabbi Julia Neuberger delivered the annual Summerfield Trust lecture at the Cheltenham Festival of Literature yesterday in the Everyman Theatre.

Insurers' Company

The following have been installed officers of the Insurers' Company for the ensuing year:

Master, Mr Bernard Day; Senior Warden, Mr Peter Harris; Junior Warden, Mr John Phillips.

Latest wills

Sir Frank Ewart **Smith**, of Pulborough, West Sussex, former deputy chairman of ICI, left estate valued at £502,904 net.

JOHN PAUL

Alasdair Carmichael, the project secretary, with Glenuig's new village hall, which was opened last April

Highland village defeats harsh odds to bring fresh life and soul together

By Gillian Bowditch
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE TIMES TOUCHE ROSS COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE AWARDS

A GENERATION ago the village of Glenuig, on the north coast of Moidart in the Scottish Highlands, seemed doomed to oblivion. A victim of the Highland Clearances in the 18th and 19th centuries and of the search for employment in the 20th, it suffered from a steadily declining population, and in 1968 the village school closed.

It has since been revitalised by its own inhabitants in a remarkable act of collective faith. On their own initiative they have created a thriving music festival and have built a new village hall that is attracting groups of the calibre of Scottish Opera and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

The villagers have had to cope with conditions few in the rest of Britain can imagine in order to thrive in what has been called one of the last true wildernesses of Scotland. Glenuig did not have mains electricity until 1982 and weather in the winter months can be hard. Despite the difficulties, the villagers decided to form the Glenuig Community Association to help to preserve their way of life and to promote the social welfare of residents. One of its first decisions was to utilise the old school, which was lying dormant, and to raise the funds to build a new village hall.

Glenuig has always had a village hall and tales are still told of people walking from Lochailort and Kinlochmoidart to attend the dances at Glenuig. But by 1985 the village hall, built from an old army Nissen hut, was completely dilapidated. To raise funds, the community founded the Glenuig Music Festival, which ran for 11 years and spawned a host of imitators. Alasdair Carmichael, the project secretary, says it attracted 1,000 people to the area during the first weekend in August every year. Bands like Capercaillie, who made the music for the film *Rob Roy*, played at the festival in the early days.

The original target set by the 80 adults in the village was to find £10,000, but about £35,000 was raised. The community learnt new skills, such as musical promotion, concert production and stage lighting.

A further £150,000 of funds was made available by Highland Regional Council, Lochaber District Council and the European Union, and the new hall was opened in April this year.

The hall has been designed for good acoustics and accommodates a playgroup and a youth club. The local doctor, who used to hold consultations in her car, has surgery space in the hall. There is also a classroom and space for a village computer. The local landowner, Mrs Llewellyn, gave the site for the hall.

By incorporating the surgery and facilities for community training, the village was able to gain access to grant aid, which would not have been available for a less ambitious type of village hall. After 12 years of community action, the hall is quickly becoming a centre for music and culture within the area and has set an example for other small communities to follow with its innovative design. Mr Carmichael says: "It shows what can be achieved through sustained community commitment."

Talla Ghlinn Uige has been shortlisted for the 1995 Community Enterprise Awards organised by Business in the Community and sponsored by The Times *and Touche Ross. The names of the winners will be announced later this year.*

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Samuel Clarke, theologian, Norwich, 1675; Arthur Phillip, founder of penal colony at Sydney, New South Wales, London, 1738; James Barry, historical painter, Cork, 1741; Heinrich Olbers, astronomer, Arbergen, Germany, 1758; Joseph Gillot, pioneer of the steel pen, Sheffield, 1799; John Thadeus Delane, Editor of *The Times* 1841-1877, London, 1817; Sir George Williams, founder of YMCA, Dulverton, Somerset, 1821; Henry John Heinz, food manufacturer, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1844; Sir Bernard Partridge, artist and cartoonist, London, 1861; Lewis Fry Richardson, mathematician, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1881; François Mauriac, novelist, Nobel laureate 1952, Bordeaux, 1885.

DEATHS: Huldreich Zwingli, Swiss reformer, killed in battle, Kappel, Switzerland, 1531; Sir Thomas Wyatt the Elder, poet, Sherborne, Dorset, 1542; Meriwether Lewis, explorer of northwest America, Nashville, Tennessee, 1809; Samuel Wesley, musician, London, 1837; James Joule, physicist, Sale, Cheshire, 1889; Edward White Benson, Archbishop of Canterbury 1882-96, Hawarden, Clwyd, 1896; Anton Bruckner, composer, Vienna, 1896; Henry Broadhurst, trades unionist, Cromer, 1911; Jean Fabre, entomologist, Serignan-du-Comtat, 1915; Maurice Vlaminck, painter, Rueil-la-Gadeliere, 1958; "Chico" Marx, actor, Hollywood, 1961; Jean Cocteau, poet, painter, actor and film director, Milly-la-Forêt, 1963; Edith Piaf, singer, Paris, 1963; Stanley Morison, typographer and historian of *The Times*, London, 1967.

The Great Fire of Chicago was extinguished, 1871.

The Jodrell Bank radio telescope, designed by Sir Bernard Lovell, began operating, 1957.

University news

Liverpool

Professorial appointments

Nanette Neuwahl, lecturer in law at Leicester University, to the chair of European Law.

David Peel, professor of solid state physics at Keele University, to a chair of experimental physics.

Stanley Roberts, professor of organic chemistry at Exeter University, to the Heath Harrison Chair of Organic Chemistry.

John Sloane, consultant histopathologist at the Royal Marsden Hospital, to a chair of pathology.

Timothy Unwin, associate professor at the University of Western Australia, to the James Barrow Chair of French.

Qing-Hua (Henry) Wu, lecturer in Mathematical Sciences at Loughborough University of Technology, to a chair of electrical engineering.

The university has conferred the status and title of professor upon the following:

Michael Begon, reader in environmental and evolutionary biology.

Andrew Cossins, reader in environmental and evolutionary biology.

Benny Pollack, reader jointly in the School of Politics and Communication Studies and the Institute of Latin-American Studies.

David Thistlewood, reader in architecture and building engineering.

Terry Russell, director of the Centre for Research into Primary Science and Technology.

Church news

Resignations and retirements

The Very Rev Alistair Haig, Rector, Bocking, St Mary (Chelmsford), to resign November 30.

The Rev Denis Hutchings, Priest-in-charge, Lydford, Brent Tor, Bridestowe and Sourton (Exeter): to retire December 31.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.M. Amies
and Miss S.J. Whimster

The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Colin Amies, of Docking, Norfolk, and Suzanne, younger daughter of Professor and Mrs William Whimster, of Blackheath, London.

Mr G.R.C. Bucknall
and Miss R.M.E. Salvesen

The engagement is announced between Graham, son of Mr and Mrs Derek Bucknall, of Tewin, Hertfordshire, and Rachel, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Salvesen, of Spylaw, Kelso, Roxburghshire.

Mr M. A. Clarke
and Mlle E.D. Moinet

The engagement is announced between Morgan, son of Mr and Mrs Tom Clarke, of Navestock Side, Essex, and Elisabeth, daughter of M and Mme Guy Moinet, of Vers-sur-Selles, near Amiens, France.

Mr R.F.C. Dobbs
and Miss C.L. Hardman

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Noel Dobbs, of Wimbledon, London, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Hardman, of Poulton-Le-Fylde, Lancashire.

Mr G.C. Greig
and Miss K.E. Terry

The engagement is announced between Geordie, youngest son of Sir Carron and Lady Greig, and Kathryn, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Don Terry, of Texas.

Mr E.H.S. Masters
and Miss C.A. Leavy

The engagement is announced between Edward Henry Somerset, son of Mr and Mrs David Masters, of Silton, Dorset, and Clodagh Anne, daughter of Mr Don Leavy, of Kilbritain, Co Cork, and Mrs Ralph Montagu, of Ringsfield, Suffolk.

Lieutenant Commander M.R. Greenland, RN,
and Miss N.F. Norman

The engagement is announced between Michael Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Greenland, of Trowbridge, Wiltshire, and Nicola Frances, daughter of the late Mr Anthony Norman and of Mrs Tessa Forrest, formerly of Sevenoaks, and stepdaughter of Mr Barclay Forrest, of Duns, Berwickshire.

Mr J.W.S. Moore
and Miss H. Figgis

The engagement is announced between Julian William Sewell, second son of Mr and Mrs Henry Moore, of Shucknall Court, Hereford, and Heather, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Figgis, of Wey Street Farm, Hernhill, Faversham, Kent.

Marriages

Mr B.T. Davies
and Miss J.A.C. Dunning

The marriage took place on September 23, 1995, on board the *MV Mantaray*, Trinity Inlet, Cairns, Australia, between Mr Bevan Thomas Davies, second son of Mr and Mrs D.J. Davies, of Cairns, Australia, and Miss Julie Anne Christina Dunning, only daughter of Mr and Mrs William Dunning, of Dunnington, York.

Mr R.I. Jones
and Miss L.K. Ng

The marriage took place on Saturday, September 30, 1995, at the Cathedral of St Mary the Virgin, Kuala Lumpur, of Mr Richard Iwan Jones, eldest son of Dr and Mrs David Ieuan Jones, of Narberth, Dyfed, and Miss Ng Lay Koon, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Ng Thiam Hock, of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Service luncheon

Gallipoli Association

Colonel M. Hickey was the guest speaker at the annual luncheon of the Gallipoli Association held yesterday at the Naval Club to mark the 80th anniversary of the campaign of 1915. Captain C.T.F. Fagan, chairman of the association, presided.

Luncheons

Britain-Australia Society

The Australian High Commissioner was present at the annual meeting and luncheon of the Britain-Australia Society held yesterday at Australia House. Sir John Leahy, chairman, presided.

Lunchtime Comment Club

Mr Misha Gavrilovic, of the Serbian Information Centre, London, was the guest speaker at the Lunchtime Comment Club's luncheon held yesterday at the New Connaught Rooms.

Reception

Corporation of London

The Corporation of London gave a reception at Guildhall yesterday to mark the appointment of Mr Melvyn Barnes, Guildhall Librarian and Director of Libraries and Art Galleries, as President of the Library Association.

Dinners

Glovers' Company

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, received the guests at the annual dinner of the Glovers' Company held last night at the Mansion House. Mr John Gardner, Master, presided. General Sir Michael Rose, Adjutant General, and Sir David Williams, QC, Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, were the principal guests. Colonel Richard Lea, Honorary Colonel the 21st SAS Regiment, was also present.

De Montfort University

On the occasion of the installation of Sir Clive Whitmore, GCB, CVO, as Chancellor of De Montfort University on Monday night the retiring Chancellor, Dame Anne Mueller, DCB, held a reception and dinner at the Banqueting House, Whitehall Palace. Lord Judd proposed the toast of the University. Those present included:

Mr Michael Heseltine, MP, Deputy Prime Minister and First Secretary of State; the Ambassadors of Finland, Lithuania and Switzerland; representatives of the Embassies of Ukraine, Poland, Thailand and Indonesia and the High Commissions for Malaysia and Pakistan; Viscount Runciman of Doxford, Lord and Lady Armstrong of Ilminster, Lord Blyth, Lord Chorley, Lord and Lady Kennet, Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord and Lady Peyton of Yeovil, Lord Phillips of Ellesmere, Lord Woolf, Mr Michael Howard, QC, MP, Mr Peter Brooke, CH, MP, Sir Frank and Lady Cooper.

Sir Stephen Barrett, Sir Terence Burns, Sir Robin Butler, Sir John Chilcot, Sir Paul Condon, Sir Brian Corby, Sir Neil Cossons, Dame Elizabeth Esteve-Coll, Sir Ronald Halstead, Sir Christopher Harding, Sir Ernest Harrison, Sir Peter Imbert, Sir Brian Jenkins, Sir Thomas Legg, QC, Sir Edwin Nixon, Sir Michael Partridge, Sir Moray Stewart, Judge Tumim, Lady Whitmore, Sir Peter Yarranton.

Sir Trevor Skeet, MP, Mr John Bowis, MP, Mr Bryan Davies, MP, Mr Edward Garnier, QC, MP, Mr Edward Leigh, MP, Mr Nigel Brown, Mr Nicholas Corah, Professor Alan Cuthbert, Mr Howard Davies, Mr Roger Dawe, Dr Bruce Farmer, Mrs Betty Harvey, Mr J A Haviland, Mr Marmaduke Hussey, Mr Richard Mottram, Mr Hayden Phillips, Mr Alan Spencer, Dr Joe Valentine, Dr Leonard J. Weaver, Mr Peter Wheeler, Mr Tony Wilkinson, Mr David Wilson, the Rev Dr Kenneth Wilson.

The Pro Chancellors: Dr John White, Mr John Whitehead and Mrs Whitehead; the Vice-Chancellor: Professor Kenneth Barker; the Pro Vice-Chancellors: Professors David Chiddick, Michael Scott, Brian Swanick; the Associate Pro Vice-Chancellors: Professors John Moverley, Peter Thewlis; and Academic Heads.

Greater Manchester Lieutenancy

Colonel David Kirkwood, Commander, Greater Manchester Garrison, and Mrs Kirkwood were the guests of the Lord Lieutenant, Vice Lord-Lieutenant and Deputy Lieutenants of Greater Manchester at a dinner held last night in the Masonic Hall, Bridge Street, Manchester.

PERSONAL COLUMN

BMDS: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

A wise man is directed in his counsel and knowledge by the Lord whose secrets are his constant study.
Ecclesiasticus 39 : 7 (REB).

BIRTHS

BARNES YALLOWLEY - On September 29th 1995, to Antonia (née Inge) and Jonathan, a son, Charles Humphrey Inge, a brother for Max and Toby.

BIRCH - On Friday October 6th 1995 at QEII Hospital, Welwyn Garden City, to Beverley (née Wilkinson) and Gary, a daughter, Ellie Nicole 6lbs 3oz.

CHAN - On October 7th 1995 at the Wellington Hospital, a long awaited gift of a son, Alexander Konley.

HEWITSON - On October 9th in Auckland, New Zealand, to Melanie (née Hayes) and Nigel, a son, Felix, a brother for Phoebe.

INNES - On 10th October 1995 at the Wellington Hospital, to Vera (née Moran Danlas) and Duncan, a son, James Robert.

O'NEILL - On 1st October 1995, to Fiona (née Shand) and Mark, a daughter, Philippa Kate.

RUSSELL - On 30th September, to Claire (née Quantrill) and Bruce, a son, Robert James Osborne, a brother for Emily, Flora and George.

STEPHENS - Stephen and Karen Friebe are delighted to announce the birth of their son Thomas Blacket Stephens on 9th October 1995.

WILLIAMS - On October 7th 1995, to Jennifer (née Moore) and Colin, a daughter, Joanna Ruth, a sister for Sarah and Elizabeth.

DEATHS

AUSTIN - Basil Robert Mond died on 3rd October aged 72 years. Funeral Service at the Downs Crematorium, Brighton, on Thursday 12th October at 11.30 am. Family flowers only but donations may be sent to the Officers Association c/o Regency Funeral Service, 29 College Place, Brighton, tel: (01273) 603013. A Memorial Service will be arranged.

BADHWAR - On October 10th at his home in New Delhi, F.C. Badhwar (Billy) aged 95, retired Chairman of Indian Railway Board and formerly Director of Bird & Co. Mourned by his widow Dr. Mary Badhwar (Thomas) and family.

BAINES - On 8th October 1995, Frederick Harry, artist, in his 85th year. Funeral Friday 13th October 2.30pm Golders Green Crematorium. If desired, cut flowers only to H.J. Bent & Co., Aberdeen Place, London NW8.

BARTLETT - Emmeline Mildred, on 7th October, peacefully in Cape Town. Lovingly remembered by Winifred, Ernest, Margaret, Lindsay and Ian.

BEREGI - Gerda Maria (née Erben) (of Holland Park), peacefully at Princess Grace Hospital on 27th September aged 76. Burial at the Liberal Jewish Cemetery, Pound Lane, Willesden, London NW10, on Tuesday October 17th at 1 pm.

BRIGGS - On 7th October, peacefully at home, Doris Mary, beloved wife of the late Group Captain "Pock" Briggs of Kenya, dearly loved mother of Dermid and Sandra, beloved stepmother and grandmother. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium on Friday 13th October at 11.45 am. Family flowers only.

BROOKE - Anne Rosemary (née Laughton), much loved wife for 47 years of Peter de L. Brooke and mother of Michael, Nick and Tim. Died suddenly in Buxton on 8th October 1995. Funeral at St John's, Buxton, 2.30 pm on Friday 13th October. No flowers please. Donations to Cancer Research Campaign.

DAVIS - Doctor Roy Edward, on 10th October, 1995, peacefully at Cheltenham General Hospital. Dearly loved husband of Sally and much loved father of Caroline, Robert and Nick, stepfather of Andrew and Louise, Jeremy and Lisa, Richard and Louise, Hamish and Suzanne and step-grandfather of Oscar, Siena and Daniel. Cremation Service to be held at Cheltenham Crematorium on Friday 13th October at 9.30am. Family flowers only please. If wished donations to The Society for Wildlife Art of the Nations (S.W.A.N.) c/o Selim Smith & Co., 74 Prestbury Road, Cheltenham, Glos.

EASTMAN - Peacefully at his home 1 Scotstown, Banff, on Sunday October 8th 1995, Peter D.M. Eastman after a short illness bravely borne and comforted by his wife Mary and his only son David Alexander. Further enquiries telephone: (01261) 815907.

ENGLAND - Mary (née Willison), peacefully on 6th October 1995, aged 82. Funeral Service Oxford Crematorium, Monday 16th October 1995 at 2 pm. No floral tributes please, but donations to British Red Cross.

FAVELL - On Sunday 8th October 1995, Commander Richard Molyneux Favell Royal Navy, D.S.C., D.L., J.P., died peacefully in St Michael's Hospital, Hayle, Cornwall. Husband of Barbara. Father of Frances, Bridget and Julia. Cremation for family only. Thanksgiving Service at St Levan Parish Church, near Penzance, on Friday 13th October 1995 at 3 pm. Family flowers only. Donations (if desired) to King George's Fund for Sailors. Funeral Director Harold Thomas tel: (01736) 810309.

FLUNDER - Daniel John O.B.E., M.C., V.R.D., on October 9th 1995, died peacefully at home. Much loved husband, father and friend. Funeral at Manaccan Parish Church on October 16th at 2pm, followed by cremation at Penmount Crematorium, Truro at 3.40pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if wished, for Cornwall Macmillan Services.

FOWLER - On October 8th, John Godfrey of Groveshead, Acton Beauchamp, aged 80. Beloved husband of May for 52 years and much cherished father of Dick, Alan and Sue. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St Mary's Church, Bishop's Frome, on Monday 16th October at 2pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, c/o Handley Funeral Directors, Little Hereford Street, Bromyard, HR7 4DE.

HANMER - Douglas Francis Wyndham, of Warwickshire. Died peacefully on October 7th after a brave fight against cancer. Deeply loved husband of Gillian and adored father of Nichola and Melanie and his grandchildren. A Thanksgiving Service will take place on Monday 16th October at St Laurence Church Rowington at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund c/o The John Taylor Funeral Service, 1-3 Russell Terrace, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV31 1EZ.

HILL - Air Vice Marshal James C.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., R.A.F. retired, at home aged 93. Husband of the late Chris, father of Sally, father-in-law of Richard and grandfather of Isabel and Raymond. Funeral Service at Barham Crematorium, nr. Canterbury, on Thursday 12th October at 10 am.

HOYLE - Peacefully at St Raphaels Hospice, Cheam, on 9th October 1995, Enid Marjorie, of Purley, Surrey, formerly of Durban, South Africa. Dearly loved wife of the late Jack Hoyle and beloved mother of Gill, John and Russell. Requiem Mass at St Aidans R.C. Church, Coulsdon, on Monday 16th October at 10 am followed by private cremation. Donations, if desired, to St Raphaels Hospice, London Road, North Cheam, Surrey.

HUNT - Grace, on October 7th, peacefully at Bricklehampton Nursing Home, Worcs., aged 95 years. Formerly of Woodford Green and Bredon. Wife of the late Arthur Hunt, dear mother of Doreen and Geoffrey, a loving grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Parndon Wood Crematorium on Friday 13th October at 12 noon. Family flowers only please, but donations in lieu for A.R.C. (Inner Wheel Charities) may be sent to Messrs Poulton Funeral Directors, Clarks Lane, Epping (plate at the Chapel).

JARMAN - On October 6th, peacefully in Cirencester Hospital, Alice Josephine, beloved wife for fifty years of the late Canon Jarman of Chester Cathedral, dearly loved mother of Catherine and the late Rachel, grandmother of Nicholas, Andrew, James and Rupert, great-grandmother of Frederick. Funeral Service in Cirencester Parish Church on Friday, October 20th at 3pm.

JOHNSTONE - Lt. Col. Norman David Melville, M.B.E., on October 9th 1995, at his home, Park House, Gaddesby, Leicestershire. Very dearly loved Husband of Roshnara and father of Charles, Michael, Esme and Victoria. Funeral Service on Friday October 13th at 12.30pm at St Lukes Church, Gaddesby, Leicestershire.

JONES - On 5th October, Ernest Brynmor, suddenly, aged 67 years. Much loved husband of Vera (k/a Vera Di Palma), father and grandfather. Funeral service at St Michael's Church, Whichford, on 13th October at 2.30 pm. Flowers to R. Locke & Son, Upper Brailes, Banbury, Oxon. (tel: 01295 685274).

LAURIE - Rosemary Lilian, beloved wife of Ronald Edward (Buster), died aged 74 on 8th October at Macclesfield General Hospital after a short illness. Greatly loved mother of Helen and Andrew and much loved grandmother ("Granzie"). Private service and cremation followed by Thanksgiving at Hexham Abbey at 11.30 am on Saturday 14th October. Details Dodds of Hexham tel: (01434) 603362.

MACONCHY - Stella Dorothy (née Bramall), on October 9th 1995, peacefully at Warminster Hospital. Aged 100, the beloved mother of Pat and Brian, loving and loved by her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, many relations and friends. Funeral Service at Bath Crematorium at 3 pm on Monday 16th October. Flowers may be sent to F. Curtis & Sons, 11 Portway, Warminster, tel: (01985) 212033. If desired donations may be sent direct to charity of personal choice.

MARTIN - On October 9th in hospital after a long illness, Catherine Ann, aged 57 years. Matron and Founder of Villa Maria Nursing Home, Croham Road, South Croydon. Loved and respected by her family, friends and "The Villa Family". Service at St Dominic's Church, Violet Lane, Croydon, on Tuesday October 17th at 2.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to J.B. Shakespeare Ltd., 67 George Street, Croydon.

McLENNAN - On October 6th 1995, peacefully at South Yeo, Doris Mabel Rosalie, aged 87. Widow of Alexander John McLennan, beloved mother of Tessa and Carole and much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral 2 pm. on October 13th at St Mary and St Benedict, Buckland Brewer. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to The Marie Curie Nursing Foundation, c/o Mrs S. Rawlinson, Health Centre, Vicarage Street, Barnstaple, EX32 7BT.

OPPÉ - Armide Lyonesse Tollemache, died peacefully on October 9th 1995, aged 85. Much loved aunt of Lucy, John, Charlotte and Mary and sister-in-law of Jean. Private cremation on Tuesday 17th October at Gravel Hill Crematorium, Broadstone, Poole, Dorset. Family flowers only. A Memorial Service in London will be announced shortly.

ORCHARD - On October 9th 1995, peacefully at Coxhill Manor Nursing Home Chobham, Leslie Charles John in his 83rd year. Beloved husband of Amy. Father of David and Lowena, father-in-law of Michael and Susan. Grandfather of Jennifer, Simon, Emmeline and Fiona. Private funeral at Woking St John's Crematorium on Monday October 16th at 10 am. A Memorial Service will be announced later. Floral tributes and enquiries to Woking Funeral Service, tel: (01483) 772266.

PARKINSON - On 4th October 1995, Jessie Rae (née Bruce), beloved mother of Richard; much missed by Tim.

PEPLOE - On Sunday October 8th, 1995, Major James Robert Stevenson Peploe, M.B.E., MC. Beloved husband of Veronica and dear father of Andrew and Martin. Funeral Service at the Church of the Holy Rood, Wool, Dorset on Tuesday 17th October at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired for the Joseph Weld Hospice may be sent to Albert Marsh (Funeral Directors) Ltd, St Michael's Road, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 4QU, tel: (01929) 552107.

PICKETT - Christopher Arthur of Hedgerley Village, Buckinghamshire. Passed away peacefully in his sleep at home on October 6th 1995 after a long illness. Much loved husband of Margaret and brother of Helen. Father of Richard, Andrew and Mary-Jane. Adored grandpa of Christopher, Charles, Thomas, Melanie and Jack. "A man of few words but immeasurable talent".

RAVENHILL - On October 9th 1995, peacefully at RD&E Hospital, William aged 75 years, Emeritus Reardon Smith Professor of Geography of the University of Exeter. Dearly loved husband of Mary. Funeral Service Monday October 16th, Exeter University Chapel, 2 pm, followed by cremation. No flowers. Donations to Exeter Leukaemia Fund c/o Funeral Directors M. Stillfant & Sons, 20 Holloway Street, Exeter.

REID - Rose Elizabeth (née Hunter) of Havant, Hampshire. Died on October 7th 1995. Re-united with Dad. Beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. God Bless, love you always. Cremation at Chichester on Monday October 16th 1995 at 11 am. Flowers may be sent to Grady's Funeral Directors, 23 Mengham Road, Hayling Island, Hants, PO11 9BG.

RONEY - Irene (née Victory) died peacefully on 6th October aged 93, beloved grandmother of Nicola and James Shuck. Lives on in our memories. The funeral service will take place on Friday 13th October 3 pm at Grantham Crematorium, Lincolnshire. Flowers and enquiries to David Holland & Son, London Road, Grantham, NG31 6HW.

TAIT - On 10th October 1995 peacefully at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn, Elsie aged 84 years, of Three Crowns House, Kings Lynn, beloved wife of the late Alexander Tait.

TARRY - David, B.Sc. (Elec. Eng.), B.A. (Biol.), A.M.I.E.E. Suddenly but peacefully on 5th October aged 51 years. Margaret McEvoy's husband, Diana's elder son, Siobhan's father. Loving and dearly loved husband, father, son, brother, uncle, friend and colleague. Funeral Service at Westminster Cathedral on Monday 16th October at 10.30 am. Burial at Northwood Cemetery, Cowes, Isle of Wight, at 11am Tuesday 17th October. Flowers or donations to Salvation Army. Enquiries to E. Larner & Son, (0171) 223-5432.

WARCUP - On 9th October, peacefully in her sleep at Chatterwood Nursing Home, Frances Zoe (née Joy), dearly loved wife of the late Bob and mother of Anne, Zibha, Patti and Jo. Beloved grannie. The family would like to express their sincere thanks to Margaret and the Staff at Chatterwood. Funeral at 12 noon, Tuesday 17th October, Swinbrook Parish Church, Oxfordshire. Flowers to Brian Taylor Funeral Director, Carterton, Oxfordshire. Donations if desired to local branches of Age Concern.

WILLIAMS - Gerard Thomas Sowler MBE. On October 6th, suddenly and peacefully at home. Beloved husband of Dorothy (Pat) and adored father of John, Bruce, Fiona and Jason. A caring brother, a generous grandfather and a charming and delightful friend to many. Service of Thanksgiving for his extraordinary life at the Parish Church of St Catherine in Montacute on Monday October 16th at 12.30 pm. Flowers to Irish & Denman, South Petherton. (01460) 240348.

WYNDHAM - The Hon. Ursula. On 10th October 1995 in her sleep at home at Petworth, aged 82.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

BEE - There will be a Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Dr. James Arthur Bee BSc PhD on Wednesday 8th November at 12 noon at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Eversholt Street, London NW1. Following the service all friends, colleagues and students of James will be welcome at The Royal Veterinary College, Royal College Street, London NW1 0TU. Those wishing to attend for light refreshments are asked to contact Mrs I Surridge (0171-468 5204) by Friday 27th October.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

HYDE - Yvette Mayeni. Treasured memories of a loved and loving wife, daughter and friend, who died 11th October 1993, aged 38, R.I.P. From her husband Larry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr J. Powell and Miss M Cummins, both of Stevenage, Herts, for becoming engaged on Saturday 7th October 1995 while in [illegible] restaurant in Rome.

[illegible] Erika Helene. Anyone having knowledge of her whereabouts or whether she is alive please tel 0117 9681718

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THE ZITO TRUST

The Zito Trust established by Jayne Zito will hold its second fundraising classical concert (Copland, Mozart, Elgar) performed by The Zito Ensemble on Saturday 14th October at St Mary's Church, Bryanston Square, Marylebone, at 7.30 pm. All proceeds raised will go to The Zito Trust's pioneering work in the field of community care. Tickets are [illegible] and are available from the Trust on [illegible]

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OBITUARIES

JOHN CAIRNCROSS

John Cairncross, Foreign Office and Treasury official dismissed for passing information to the *Soviet agent Guy Burgess*, died on October 8 aged 82. He was born on July 27, 1913.

THE *downfall of John Cairncross* — identified by the KGB double agent Oleg Gordievsky as the Fifth Man in 1990 — occurred in the wake of the *defection of the traitors* Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean in May 1951. A trunk left behind by Burgess was *found* by security officials to contain a set of handwritten notes, *penned* in 1939. These provided a *tour d'horizon* of top level government thinking about the threat from Hitler's Germany and the posture of appeasement adopted by a number of politicians and top civil servants of the period, including the Prime Minister of the day, Neville Chamberlain.

One of the notes referred to a luncheon with Sir John Colville, a senior government official, later to become Churchill's secretary. Colville was able to check the date in his diary and help to identify *the handwriting* as that of Cairncross. "I was horrified," he later recalled: "He was a brilliant *fellow, perhaps* one of the best brains in the Foreign Office."

Cairncross was interrogated twice by William Skardon, the MI5 interrogator *who had uncovered the atom* spy Klaus Fuchs (but failed to unmask Kim Philby). Cairncross confirmed that while at the Foreign Office he had been in the habit of meeting Guy Burgess from time to time. He had not, apparently, met Burgess at Cambridge but had got to know him later, in London.

Cairncross later pointed out that he spent only two years in the Foreign Office "*in a very junior capacity*" and that he transferred to the Treasury in October 1938, where he handled only non-confidential material. Nevertheless, as a result of *the* Skardon investigation, Cairncross was first suspended and then, in 1952, "required to resign" without a pension from the Treasury. It was *apparently decided* not to prosecute him since his role was a relatively minor one and did not merit a *treason trial*. Cairncross immediately moved abroad, only returning to Britain six months ago.

When in 1979 Anthony Blunt was *unmasked as the fourth member of the* Burgess, Maclean, Philby nest of Cambridge traitors, the failure to prosecute Cairncross caused a parliamentary *row involving allegations that* he, like Blunt, had escaped judicial reckoning because of "double standards" which protected members of the establishment.

John Cairncross was educated at Hamilton Academy, Glasgow University, *the Sorbonne and at Trinity* College, Cambridge, where in addition *to gaining a First in French and* German he joined the Communist Party, seeing communism at that time as a bulwark against the rising tide of *Hitler's Nazism.*

After briefly considering an academic career, he entered the Foreign Office. *As one of its most promising recruits he seemed set for a brilliant diplomatic* career, being fancied to reach ambassadorial rank. But this was not to be.

Cairncross served in the American department, at the League of Nations and in the Central and Western departments. However, he was considered *unsuitable for representative* posts abroad and, in 1938, was transferred to the Treasury. In September *1940 he* became private secretary to Lord Hankey, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Paymaster-General.

In 1942 he was called up, joining the *the Royal Armoured Corps but,* because of his exceptional linguistic *talents, he was posted to the Government* Codes and Cyphers School at Bletchley. Assigned initially to Hut 3, he also worked for a time as head of a *section.*

But he was apt to belittle the work he was called upon to do, as being not good enough for his *qualifications. His* colleagues were said to have been glad to be rid of him when in 1943 he joined Section V of the Secret Intelligence *Service (M16) which studied and* analysed the German espionage machine. It was here that he met Kim Philby for the first time.

In 1945 he returned to the Treasury and was seconded to the Ministry of Supply. Here again he was apparently not judged a success and he returned, later the same year, to the Treasury, still a principal, the rank he had held since 1943.

After being dismissed in 1952, Cairncross settled in Rome where he became the accredited correspondent for *The Economist, The Observer* and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). In June 1953 he *moved to* Geneva to work as a temporary translator for the United Nations, and subsequently moved between Geneva *and Rome undertaking* freelance work for *The Scotsman* as well as *The Economist* and CBC. He acted, from 1953 to 1956, as a consultant for the UN *technical assistance office in Geneva,* from where he also freelanced for the Italian newspaper, *Corriere della Sera.*

In 1957 he joined the staff of the UN Economic Commission of Asia as editor of documents. Four years later he *returned to Rome as an economic* consultant and in 1962 and 1963 spent time in Pakistan with a Harvard University advisory group. In 1964 he *visited the United States for six months* as chairman of the department of commerce at Western Reserve University, Cleveland.

When Cairncross's role in the Burgess-Maclean affair was brought to light in 1979 he denied passing top secret information to Burgess that was harmful to Britain. He always claimed that his main service to the Soviet war *effort was to place at the disposal of the* Red Army the precise dispositions of German units before the Battle of Kursk, the titanic clash between *Russian and German armour in the* summer of 1943, which effectively decided the outcome of the war on the Eastern Front. There was a difference, he said, between working for an ally, as Russia then was, and working for the Soviet Union during the Cold War, *something he always resolutely denied* doing.

Indeed, he always claimed that he had left the Communist Party after a year, his feelings for it having changed before he joined the Foreign Office.

In 1991, following the collapse of *communism in the Soviet Union,* a KGB colonel, Yuri Modin, claimed that he had been Cairncross's controller and that Cairncross, together with *Philby, Burgess, Maclean and Blunt,* had been known collectively as The Five — men singled out as agents whose material should get priority. Modin said the five had all worked independently, thereby putting into question long-held theories that they had been part of an organised ring recruited at Cambridge in the 1930s.

Cairncross had recently completed his memoirs, to be entitled *Agent for the Duration,* which are scheduled for publication in the coming months. Though his marriage to his first wife, Gabriella, was never dissolved, their relationship broke up in the 1960s. After her death this summer he married his longtime companion, *Gayle Brinkerhoff, who survives him.*

SIR PHILIP OPPENHEIMER

***Sir Philip Oppenheimer,* Chairman of the Diamond Trading Company since 1975, died *on October 8 aged 83. He* was born on October 29, 1911.**

EVERY July for the last 23 years a quiet gentleman in a grey suit accompanied the Queen in the winner's enclosure at Ascot *to present one of* racing's most glittering prizes: the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes. For Philip Oppenheimer the occasion represented a happy association of his two *greatest interests, for if racing* was his passion, the diamond industry was his life.

It was not always so, as he *himself later admitted.* Although a member of a family whose name, even then, was *synonymous with diamonds,* when in 1933 he came down from Jesus College, Cambridge, where he had read *history* and law and won a boxing blue, he had drifted into the diamond industry. It *was, he said, counter to an* "inherent laziness" and against the initial advice of his father, Otto, who was running *the London marketing arm of* De Beers.

The early 1930s was not the *best time to begin a career in a* diamond industry still trapped in the backwash of the Great Depression. As *chairman of De Beers, his uncle Sir* Ernest Oppenheimer had just begun to construct the Central Selling Organisation (CSO) which, as a producers' cooperative, was to restore stability to the industry and *eliminate the wild price fluctuations* which had brought about the closure of many mines. Despite his family *connections,* Philip Oppenheimer started at the bottom as "a kind of office boy", before training as a diamond sorter in London, Antwerp and Kimberley.

He returned to England in 1939 *at the outbreak of the* Second World War to join the ranks in the Royal Artillery, eventually taking a *commission in the Berkshire Yeomanry.* He ended the war as a lieutenant-colonel in combined operations, winning the Dutch Bronze Cross for his role during the allied landings in Sicily. In later years this *essentially modest man* required much prompting to tell the story of that action in which, when the Dutch gunboat *in which he served as* Bombardment Liaison Officer was disabled and its captain *killed.* Oppenheimer who knew nothing about navigation, took command of the boat while continuing to direct *fire on enemy emplacements.*

After the war Oppenheimer returned to London, where De *Beers' offices at St Andrew's* House had been destroyed by a direct hit during the Blitz. In 1948 after the death of his *father and with the encouragement* of his uncle Ernest, he took over the management of *the London CSO,* becoming chairman in 1956, when he was also appointed a director of De Beers. It says much for *his stewardship that, when he* stepped down as President of the CSO at the end of 1993, annual world diamond sales channelled through the organisation had risen from $154 million in 1948 to $4.4 billion.

A key to this exponential growth was Oppenheimer's role in persuading the growing ranks of new producers to *market their diamonds* through the CSO, and his greatest coup was the signing *in 1959* of the first contract *with Soviet Russia,* which was to become a major player in the world diamond industry. *From then until he stepped* down as chairman of the CSO in favour of his nephew, Harry Oppenheimer's son Nicholas, *he continued to lead* all subsequent negotiations with the Russians, who respected his indomitable persistence as much as they responded to his quiet humour.

His courteous manner and his diffidence concealed a steely will. As Harry once remarked, Philip was always better at negotiations than he. Whereas Harry, *presented* with a problem, would think of a hundred different ways of solving it, Philip had the capacity to "just *sit* there saying no". On one famous occasion, growing weary of Russian intransigence, he *announced that negotiations* would conclude at a certain time when he would catch the flight back to London. The deal was *finally* sealed by a Russian official shaking hands with Philip through the *window of his departing car.*

In 1970 as expanding world diamond production flowed to and through London, he was *knighted for his services to* UK exports. In Belgium he was made Commandeur de l'Ordre de la Couronne in 1971, and Commandeur de l'Ordre de Leopold in 1977.

An early interest in horses was *fostered during* Oppenheimer's boyhood in Bracknell where he had ridden to *hounds with the Bucks &* Berks Stag Hounds. At Cambridge, as captain of the university boxing team, he *had to choose between racing* and the ring, but his interest in racing later revived when he *bought a share in a mare at a* Newmarket stud owned by an old Jesus College friend, Nicky Morriss.

In 1965 Oppenheimer bought the Hascombe Stud, founded by Sir John Jarvis, and it was there that he lived during the final years of his life. He bred many successful fillies, including his greatest *triumph, On The House,* the 33-1 winner of the 1,000 Guineas in 1982.

In 1972, a year after his *election to the Jockey Club,* he persuaded De Beers to sponsor a major race, the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes. Over the next 23 years, this became one of the major events of the British racing calendar. Though a dedicated bridge player and keen golfer, horses always remained his ruling passion. *It was singularly fitting that* his last public appearance was in the Ascot Winners' Enclosure at Diamond Day this year.

Sir Philip Oppenheimer leaves his widow, Pamela, and *their son and daughter.*

PATRIC WALKER

Patric Walker, astrologer, died from complications arising from salmonella poisoning on October 8 *aged 64. He was born on* September 25, 1931.

FEW readers stopped to analyse why Patric Walker's horoscopes, published in the *Evening Standard* and *The Mail on Sunday,* and syndicated worldwide, made such compulsive reading. But by the time of his death, Walker's *name had become a byword* for insight and clarity to an estimated billion readers worldwide.

Walker scorned the idea of destiny. He argued instead that life was dominated by cycles, symbolised by the planets' movements, and that his job was *to explain how those* cycles might influence the lives of individuals born under each star sign. He loathed the idea of anyone being dependent on the stars. The planets were players in the drama: he *would describe the set-up, its* perils and opportunities. But he emphasised that the outcome depended on the action *taken at the right moment.* He had little patience with complainers or those who tried to blame the planets for their own mistakes or lack of courage.

Ubiquitous as they now *seem, star sign columns are a* recent twist in astrology's history. *Throughout many ages,* astrology has been held in high esteem, and until the scientific revolution during the 1660s, a knowledge of astrology was considered essential for an educated man. But *slowly astrology's standing* had diminished, and the students drawn to the new scientific subjects in recent centuries had helped to undermine its reputation.

Star sign columns began *only in 1930, when the astrologer* Phillip Naylor interpreted *the horoscope of the newly*-born Princess Margaret, for whom he made predictions, and then in the same piece filled *out the* column with a few lines about what events each sign might expect. The response from *readers was* overwhelming. But it was the *New York Post* (for which Walker subsequently wrote) *which capitalised on the idea* later that year by beginning the first regular column.

Walker entered the field almost by *accident* in the 1960s, when astrology was at a low ebb in public opinion, *often associated with fortune* telling. He met his teacher, *Helene Hoskins* — "Celeste" on *Queen* (later *Harpers & Queen*) magazine — at a London dinner party in 1960. When asked his star sign, he gave her short shrift but, undeterred, Hoskins extracted *his birthdate from him,* and told him that however on-top-of-the-world he was feeling now, he would soon need help. *A whisky-drinking American,* Hoskins had an international assortment of clients who forgave *her breathtaking* frankness because of the uncannily accurate nature of her pronouncements. Such was the *case in this instance.* Walker underwent a severe crisis soon afterwards, and turned to Hoskins.

Patric William Walker was born a Libran in Hackensack, New Jersey. His parents, *originally from* Yorkshire, returned to Whitby when he was four, and Patric grew up in a large Roman Catholic family. *He was* educated at a grammar school in Whitby, and the early-morning habits *established as an altar boy stayed* with him all his life.

He had several unsuccessful careers after National Service before meeting his *destiny* in the form of Mrs Hoskins — waiter, property developer *and barman. He studied* with her for six years and, to the astrologically educated eye, that rigorous training was obvious. In the late 1960s he began a column in the glossy magazine *Nova,* and in 1974, after Hoskins died, Walker took over as "Celeste". When questioned about his sometimes alarmingly dour point of view in the column, Walker said "that's not me — it's her, *still writing them*". *There* followed a stint on the *Mirror* before Walker joined Associated Newspapers in *1976,* where he worked for the *Evening Standard* and later, when it was launched in 1982, *The Mail on Sunday.*

Through syndication, in the 1980s, Walker's empire stretched around the world. A reader could learn about the day, week or month to come, and *on New Year's Day could* read about the whole year in one go (an edition which added *an estimated 750,000 to* the circulation of *The Mail on Sunday*). Walker rose at 5.30 am and in the early hours of the *morning wrote in longhand* the tens of thousands of *words a week required by his* columns.

Walker regularly turned down bids by wealthy would-be *patrons* for private consultations, but performing talent always turned his head. Although *he was a private man* himself — he disliked being photographed or interviewed intensely, for instance — he *loved the theatre and opera,* and he counted John Lennon and Elton John among his *friends. His fascination* with America developed through a relationship with an American television actor.

Walker battled with both food and drink addiction, and while he was capable of extraordinary generosity towards friends, he also had a reclusive streak. Although he kept a flat in London, his real *home since the early 1980s had* been at Lindos, on Rhodes. He loved village life and sailing, and in 1991, when he semi-retired, he said that his intention was "to sail more — while I still can".

It was while on a sailing trip that he contracted the salmonella that led, eventually, to his death, but in some ways he had predicted it. Asked whether the planets had indicated this bout of ill health, Walker *said that Saturn, the planet he* referred to as the grim reaper, was crucially positioned: according to astrologers, on Sunday, it joined the Moon in his birth chart, and called Walker home. He remained a bachelor.

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ON THIS DAY

October 11, 1889

A strike today by schoolboys would cause a sensation. Their demands for "shorter hours", "no cane" and "no homework" would be exhaustively examined and explained by the media. This report, alas, leaves the reader with many questions unanswered.

THE SCHOOLBOYS' STRIKE

Yesterday morning a band of boys, numbering about 150, paraded through the streets of Bermondsey and visited Monnow-road, Alma-road, and Alexis-street Board schools, and the Boutcher voluntary schools in Grange-road, shouting that they were on strike, and calling upon the boys to turn out and join them.

Some of the strikers were armed with sticks, and their attitude occasioned a good deal of *alarm among the children at several schools.* At the Boutcher schools three policemen were stationed at the gates at the request of the *headmaster until all the children had returned* in the afternoon.

It was stated that the originators of the *strike commenced operations on Wednesday* at Riley-street Board school, and were joined by lads from the Neckinger school. Yesterday one of the Bermondsey *Board schools* happened to be closed for the annual stocktaking, and a contingent of its boys joined the strikers. *At Riley-street* school several sticks were taken from the boys by the teachers.

Yesterday afternoon the elder boys attending the Poole's-park schools, Lennox-road, *Finsbury-park, determined to "come out on* strike". Some 70 of them got out of the playground *in the middle of the afternoon,* armed themselves with sticks and stones, and marched in procession through several streets shouting out their demands for "shorter hours", "no cane," and "no home work".

Upon arriving at the Montem-street school they did their best to "bring out" the boys, but *were unsuccessful.* After marching round the streets the boys were dispersed by police.

Two schoolboys, named Frederick Pope, 14, and William Gabood, 12, were charged *yesterday at the Thames Police-court* with throwing stones. Constable Flawn, 110K, stated that about 5 o'clock on Wednesday *evening he saw the two prisoners with about* 500 other boys throwing stones.

It appears there was a strike among the boys and the scholars of Single-street school, the Ben Jonson school, and the South-grove school, and they came into collision at the corner of Ben Jonson-lane. As the two prisoners appeared to be the ringleaders he *took them into custody. The following letter* was received by the police from the headmaster of the Single-street Board school:—

"*At midday a crowd* of boys armed with sticks and stones came to our schools and called upon our boys to 'come out on strike'. *Those who refused were called 'blacklegs',* and had brickbats and stones flung at them.

"Many of the boys were hurt. We fear a *renewal tomorrow of these proceedings* ... One or two policemen in the neighbourhood of the school gates would protect our children and entrances, and prevent brutal intimidation."

Mr. Haden Corser [the magistrate] said that this ridiculous parody of a strike could *not be allowed. He would accept the* prisoners' parents' recognizances for their future good behaviour, but if they were *brought before him again he would send them* to prison. They deserved a good whipping.

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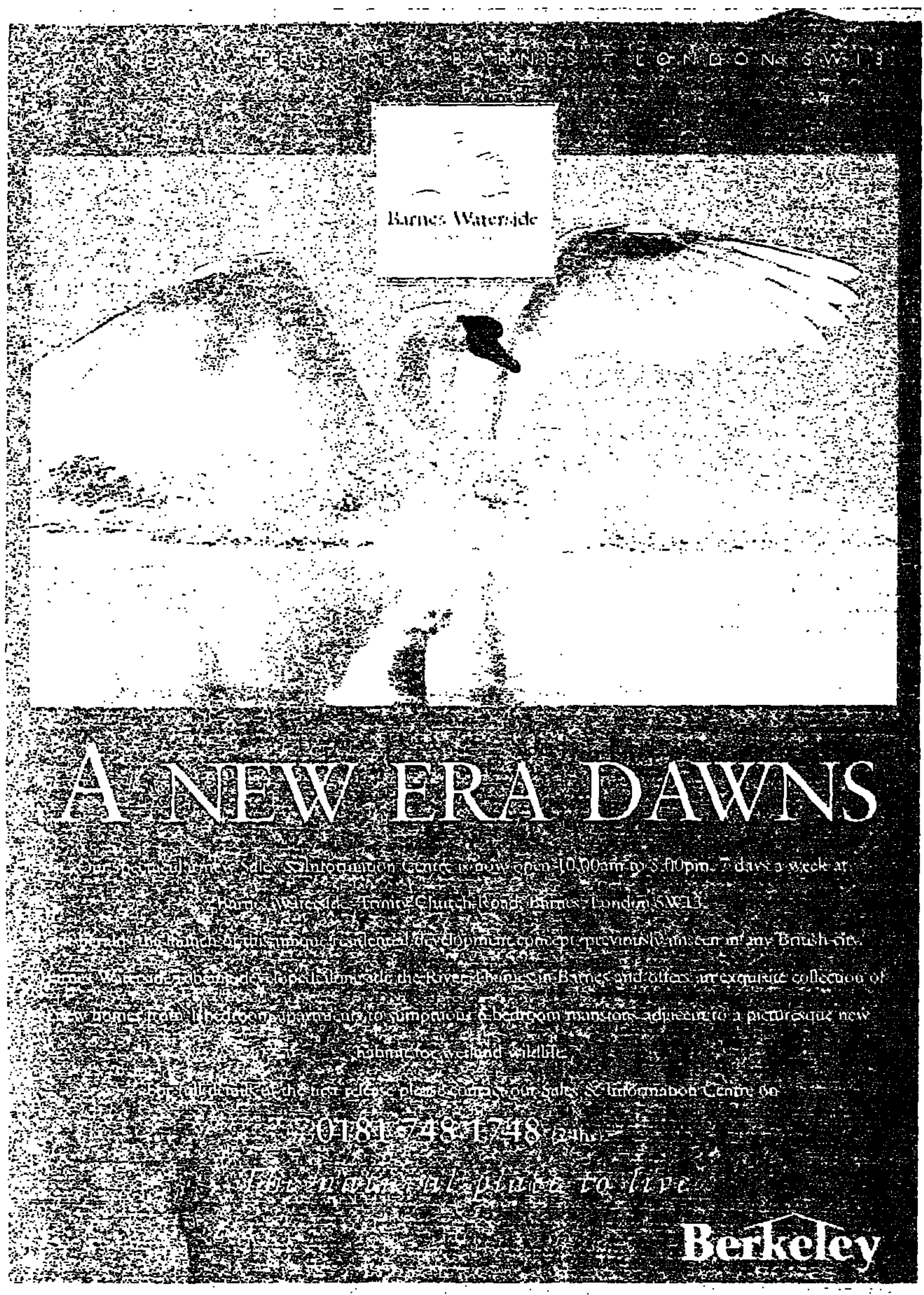
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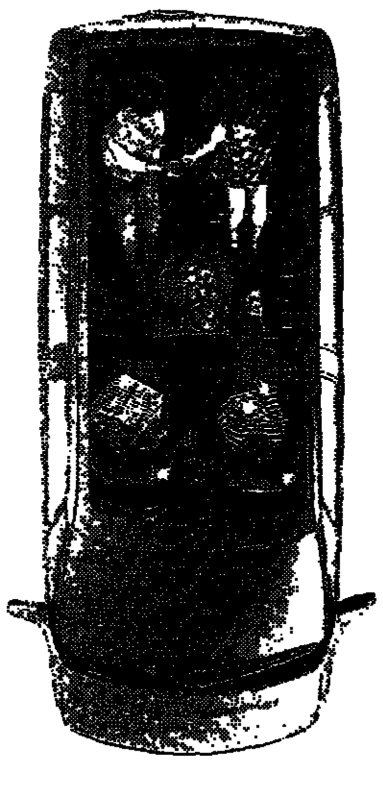

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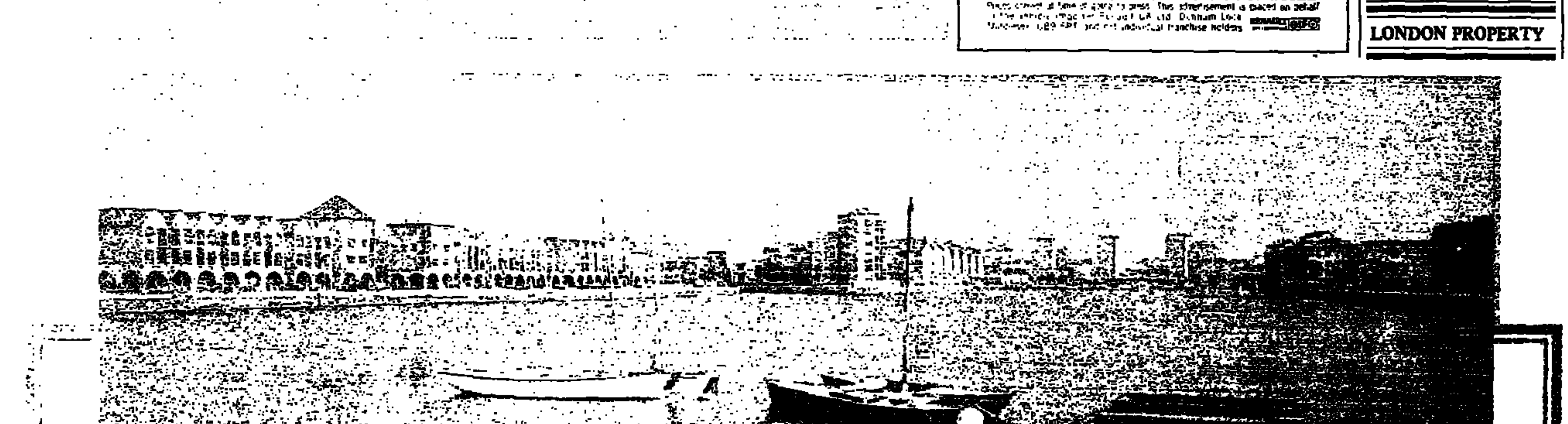

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How to cherish a Georgian house

In our desire to restore period architecture we may be removing historical character, **Rachel Kelly** says

So popular is Georgian architecture today that it is difficult to imagine that it was once considered, *in the* words of the Duke of Gloucester, "dull and repetitive".

The Duke, writing in the introduction to a new guide to the period *and its* architecture, *The Georgian House*, by Steven Parissien, repeats what has now become a familiar litany: the harmony and perfect proportions of Georgian homes *and interiors* to the modern eye.

But he gives warning of the threat to Georgian architecture from the "forces of expediency". "The battle to preserve the best of Georgian qualities is never finally won," he writes. "The harmony, the proportions, the structural details in a language of building that can, all too easily, be mispronounced or wrongly constructed, can only be preserved by understanding and observation."

We may love our Georgian homes, but more often than not we are still failing to understand or properly observe them. Dr Parissien's book *provides a guide to dos* and don'ts of restoring Georgian property.

As Dr Parissien says, horrors are still being committed in the name of *conservation*.

At least the wholesale destruction of Georgian buildings witnessed after the First World War, when Georgian Bloomsbury, Adam's Adelphi and Nash's Regent Street were lost, is now past. The 1968 and 1971 Town and Country Planning Acts introduced listing, and stringent conditions for the protection of buildings built before 1840.

But old buildings, and especially *their interiors*, are *still regularly* treated in a cavalier or dismissive manner, Dr Parissien says. "The familiar claim that traditional styles and forms are simply being reinterpreted in a modern manner is all too often used to mask the removal of all historic character."

A former education secretary at the Georgian Group, Dr Parissien has worked at English *Heritage* and has written three other tomes on Georgian style. He splits the Georgian period into its predominant styles: Palladian 1714-1760; Adam or Neoclassical 1760-1790; and Regency 1790-1830.

His watchword is to leave *something* alone "when it looks right and is doing its job". "Sympathetic refurbishment can often work out far cheaper than heavy-handed *over-restoration*," he says.

If in doubt, resist the path of authenticity. Dr Parissien rejects the school of restoration which believes in removing features *which do not correspond to a* suitably ancient period.

"Attempting to return the house to some mythical, overly precise yesteryear generally ends in failure," he says.

Instead, embrace William Morris's doctrine, that all new work that is done to return a house to 1720 will inevitably be just that; new, and not original. Jane Nylander, an American historic interiors expert and writer, agrees: "A common mistake in the restoration of historic interiors is arbitrarily *to select a date for restoration* — often the date of the original construction of the building — and then look for beautiful designs and materials appropriate to that date. *Some of the interiors created by this* procedure would probably astonish their original owners."

Georgian homes are attractive to the modern eye, but restoration work should use appropriate materials

Within this cautious framework, what then should you do?

Interiors should have their original decorative schemes and colours reinstated, and misconceptions about Georgian interiors discouraged. The modern view that panel*ling was left unpainted, for exam*ple, is mistaken.

Work should be carried out using materials and techniques of the period. This is partly for technical *reasons. For example, lime rather* than cement-based mortar should be used as the latter may cause the bricks to crack. The replacement of clay tiles with concrete, of slate with artificial *substitutes, or of timber* windows with plastic or aluminium ones alters the building's integrity and historic character. The individuality of form and workmanship is *lost when standard modern prod*ucts are used.

Finally, as Emma Phillips, the secretary of Save Britain's Heritage, says, God is in the details. *With the help of Dr Parissien, and* Hugh Lander, a historic buildings consultant and author of *The House Restorer's Guide. The Times* has produced its own guide to those *details (see panel right).*

Property restoration, Weekend section on Saturday

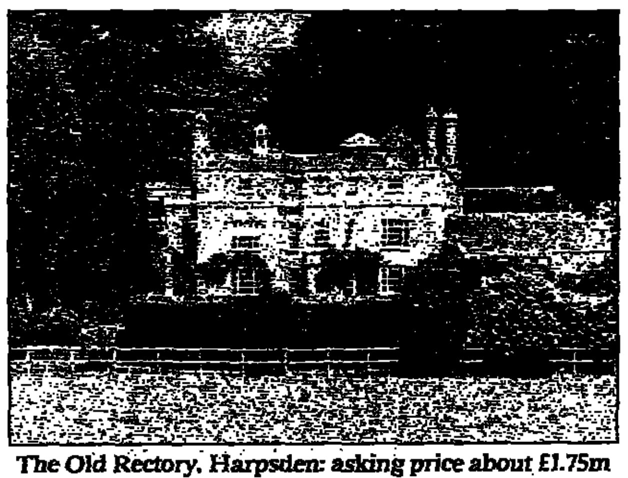
GEORGIAN RESTORATION: TEN TIPS

1 Use strong paint colours in historic ranges such as those from Farrow & Ball (01202 876141) developed with the National Trust, John Oliver (0171-727 3735), Patrick Baty (0171-352 8626), or the Dulux Heritage range.
2 *Place* light switches above the dado rail, not at *head* height. Perspex or wood surrounds are less obtrusive.
3 Leave radiators uncovered, *not boxed in, and paint to match* the wall colour of the room.
4 Paint floorboards and use a non-fitted carpet in the centre of the room, leaving a border exposing the floorboards.
5 Put back shutters rather than curtains. They are good for heat *and security*.
6 Clean exterior stonework with water sprays rather than sandblasting, which may damage the fabric of the building.
7 Open up fireplaces for ventilation and a focus for the room.
8 Use simple plastic "squeeze" moulds to copy existing *mouldings and fill in gaps. If the mouldings are absent altogether,* try asking your neighbours if you can copy theirs.
9 Use freestanding lighting.
10 Get listed building consent from your local council. Almost all alterations inside and out require consent. Talk to the conservation officer.

AND WHAT NOT TO DO

1 Don't use brilliant white paint. Georgian whites were *creamy* and often mixed with a little ochre or black.
2 Don't paint skirting boards white. They were nearly always painted chocolate brown, as dark colours don't show scuff marks.
3 Don't paint railings black. They were usually grey or green.
4 Don't use elaborate mouldings or grand chimney pieces on the top floors. The higher you go, the plainer the mouldings.
5 Don't paint cornice mouldings white like the ceiling, but the colour of the walls below.
6 Don't strip wooden wall panelling and internal doors. Wood was only left bare if it was oak or mahogany.
7 Don't use brass door furniture. Black painted iron was *invariably* used.
8 Don't use chandeliers to light a room. These were not widely used until the advent of gas lighting in the early 19th century.
9 Never use cement. It's too hard for brick or stone and can cause the wall to fracture and decay.
10 Don't paint stucco white or the pale shades often seen today. Windows in the context of stucco should not be painted white, but brown or another dark colour.

Pick of the period property for sale


The Old Rectory, Harpsden: asking price about £1.75m

☐ *Yew Tree House: Stoke Gabriel, Totnes (Marchand Petit, 01548 857588)*
Village house with views of River Dart and mill pool. Includes entrance hall, drawing room, kitchen, utilty room, three bedrooms, bathroom and shower room, plus boathouse. About £225,000.

☐ *The Old Rectory, Harpsden, Oxfordshire (Knight Frank & Rutley, 0171-629 8171)*
Georgian rectory in 61 acres of grounds. Includes five bedrooms, four bathrooms, sitting room, library and garden *room, plus swimming pool,* self-contained flat, stable block and two cottages. About £1.75 million.

☐ *Cagebrook House, Eaton Bishop, Herefordshire (Knight Frank & Rutley, 0171-629 8171)*
Elegant Georgian period house and coach house set in 34 acres of grounds. Includes reception hall, sitting room, study, drawing room, dining room, kitchen, conservatory, cellars, seven bedrooms and *two bathrooms. There is a* three-bedroom cottage annexe, swimming pool and small lake. About £750,000.

☐ *Morocco House, Bayards Cove, Dartmouth, Devon (Marchand Petit, 01548 857588)*
Situated by an attractive cobbled quay. Includes three double bedrooms, bathroom, dining room, kitchen, utility room, study area and cloakroom. About £305,000.

☐ *The Dower House, Carlton on Trent, Nottinghamshire (Strutt & Parker, 0171-823 2899)*
Grade II listed country house *with one acre of Victorian* walled grounds and views of the River Trent. Includes five bedrooms, three bathrooms, entrance hall, two drawing rooms, dining room, kitchen and cellars, plus garage and outbuilding. About £395,000.

Cagebrook House, Eaton Bishop: on sale for about £750,000

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HUNTINGDON
Victorian cottage, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 receptions, large kitchen, cloaks/w.c. C/H & dble glazing. Extensive gardens with mature fruit trees. Garage, ample parking space. Huntingdon 12 mls; Peterborough 10 mls; both offer frequent services to Kings Cross.
£97,500 F/H
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On the edge of the Fens
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6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, shower room, 3 reception rooms, conservatory, kitchen/breakfast room, garaging, former stabling, garden and paddock.
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0171 493 4106

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Or 01285 644611

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METHODIST CHAPEL
Modern conv. 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 rec, kit, oil fired rayburn. ½ acre, secluded woodland setting, near A30. £110,000.
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EAST DEVON - Superb rural views to the River Exe and beyond from Character hse. 5 beds, 1 ensuite, 4 receptions. Coach house and stable block. Indoor sw. pool. Approx. 1.5 acres. OIEO £300,000 Fulfords 01395 273757

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Spacious split-level hse with southerly views over Fynn Valley. Set in ½ acre secluded grnd incs tn/tennis. Built in 1977, g/split 1st flr totals 2300 sqft: g: recep study cloak dble gge, s: recep utility fitted kit/bkf, f: ensuite bedrm with sunrm + 3 bed + 2nd bath with sauna.
£162,000
01473 612481
01203 457748

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Tel: 01728 602720
After 6pm

ESSEX

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DORSET
17th C
FARMHOUSE
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£450,000
Tel: 01258 860 320

BOURNEMOUTH Cliff top. Lux spacious grnd flr flat. Patio gdn. 3 bed 2 bath 2 recep, kit/b'fast rm, dble gge. £225,000. Andrew Kay 01202 700771

HANTS., DORSET, AND I.O.W.

STUDLAND, Dorset Old thatch cottage with large garden close to the sea with views over Studland Bay. 2 reception rooms, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Double garage. For Sale By Auction Corbon & Son Tel: 01929 422284 Knight Frank & Rutley Tel: 0171 629 8171 Savills Tel: 01202 887351

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£165,000
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CHRISTCHURH, Dorset. Quality character spacious chalet / bungalow. 2 receptions, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 WC etc. Fronting preservation trees & backing open country. For detailed description ring 01202 484 833. Freehold £196,000 ono

19C GRANARY
Well maintained 3 storey stone granary nr Sherborne. Hall, cloaks, util, sitz rm with wood burner, din rm/kit, 3 bds, e/s shwr rm, bth, integral gge, oil CH, delightful gdns, village setting. Outstanding views. A303 4 mls. BR Castle Cary & Sherborne. £152,000.
01963 220348 No agents

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RURAL TRANQUILITY
2 mls city centre
Worcester
Spacious Victorian house set in 2½ acres, 3 reception, 4 bedrms, 2 bathrms, cellars, period features including oak staircase with sculptures. Dble gge with studio above. Walled veg garden, paddock & stable.
£245,000
Tel:01905 428912

ROSS-ON-WYE
Idyllic Lakeside setting, high spec barn conversion. 5 bed, 2 recep, lge kitchen, *low maintainance*. 4 car gge, trout stream running through 2.5 acre wooded gdn. £295,000.
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FEATURE

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WATERINGBURY - Unique 'Scandinavian' style cedar bungalow - 6 beds, 3 recept, 2 baths, shower rm, double gge, mature walled secluded garden. £178,000. Owlquest Ltd (01622) 817999 (Off hrs) (01622) 832577 (eve & wkends)

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Fax 01306 621257

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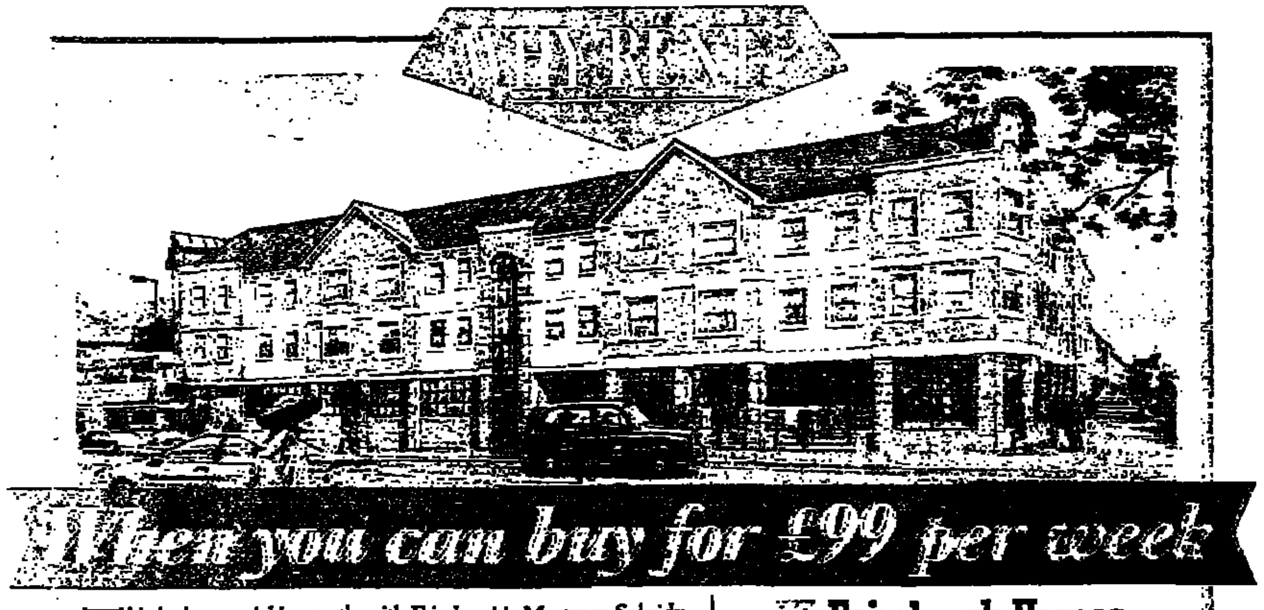
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HYDE PARK. Lux 2 bed purpose built flat f/f £600pw Chiltern Estates 0171 486 1844

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The best result for consumers would be to dismantle BT, not to do special deals with the telecoms monolith

Phone line that should break up

BRENDA MADDOX

Never can so many headlines have splashed the news of something that was going to happen anyway. It was utterly predictable that the ban that keeps British Telecom out of broadcast entertainment (to protect cable television) was going to be lifted by 2001. So what in fact has Tony Blair promised Sir Iain Vallance? That in some cable franchise areas, the ban on BT may be lifted by 1997 or 1998. Big deal.

Many have noticed that BT is offering peanuts for this long-sought concession: free connection of schools, libraries and hospitals to a broadband network. That gesture will cost BT very little and will not prevent it from sending these worthy institutions the bill for whatever use they make of the line. Anybody with a mobile telephone will know what a money trap cheap connection can be.

Less noticed has been the way the deal — or whatever it is — throws away Labour's opportunity to create more competition in local communications networks. Don't Mr Blair and his sidekicks read the papers? They claim to have found a market solution to the information superhighway. But the market solution is to break up telecommunications giants, not to strengthen them.

The Japanese Government is now wrestling with the question. Should it break up its own NTT, the world's biggest telecommunication company? In the United States, the world's second biggest telecom giant, AT&T, has just decided — voluntarily, in the interests of agility — to split itself into three parts. Eleven years ago a federal court broke up the unitary AT&T — then the kind of monolith that BT remains today — into regional parts. Even dismembered, the parts grew to be giants in their own right, ready to become the kind of marauding American investor that Lord Tebbit sinisterly sees buying up British cable companies.

BT is too big. It is the fifth largest telecommunications utility in the world. Last year (ended in March) its revenues were nearly £14 billion. It can clobber its supposed rivals, the cable companies, by cutting its telephone rates so that theirs do not look like such a bargain. BT, even broken up — either into regional chunks or into separate companies for services and network — would perform very well against the newcomers.

Besides, burying wires in the ground may not be the road to the future. The world-wide conference, Telecom '95, just ended in Geneva, suggested that many local telephone calls in future will go through the air, not through wires. A big national wired grid may not be as essential as once thought.

What's all this got to do with media? Everything. What BT wants are the profits from selling a film service — "tonight's movie" — to a mass audience over the telephone lines. No reason why BT shouldn't provide this. But it shouldn't have its iron grip over our local and international telephone calls as well.

Few things separate us from the continentals more than the attitude toward the unclothed body. That the nudes start at Calais will become clear in a few weeks, when the Independent Television Commission publishes the results of its investigation into nudity in television advertisements. Although opinions range widely, from the puritanical prude to the proselytising naturist, there seems to be a solid British bedrock of embarrassment, especially in mixed-generation groups, at an exposure of flesh which makes the European family yawn.

The ITC research is expected to show that tolerance is higher when nudity is relevant to the product sold. And it will probably confirm again that sad old truth — that the naked female is more acceptable than the naked male. What set the whole study in motion was the barrage of complaints drawn by the sight — after the 9pm watershed — of a single female nipple in the advertisement for Neutralia shower gel. (The manner of soaping was considered unnecessarily sexual by some viewers, the advertisement itself seen as opening the doors to unacceptable European standards.)

All this concern may come as a surprise to those who thought all barriers were down on the home screen. After all, ITV recently showed *Basic Instinct*, with the knickerless Sharon Stone and Michael Douglas (the latter shot tastefully but comically from the scrawny rear). But the ITC investigation was undertaken on the principle that advertisements merit special regulatory attention because commercials take viewers unawares.

Some of us, however, can still be taken unawares even in classic family entertainment. Why must we be subjected to so much heaving flesh in *Pride and Prejudice*? Every week, I expect to see at least one, if not two nipples, pop out from the expansive cleavage of the Bennet sisters. Surely girls in Jane Austen's time did not go to country balls trussed up as if they were selling Wonderbras?

Alexandra Frean reports on pressure on producers to present disabled people positively

Ready, willing, disabled

People with disabilities are grossly under-represented in the media and are too often portrayed on television and in films as pitiable characters, evil forces, social outcasts or figures of fun. So says One in Eight, a new group launched to improve the media's representation of disabled people.

If you think this is an exaggeration, try to remember the last James Bond film you saw in which the "baddy" did not have a disability or physical impairment, or the last street scene in a television drama which included someone who just happened to be passing by in a wheelchair. Or try to name more than one disabled role model in television popular drama. There have not been many since Raymond Burr rolled onto television screens in the late Sixties, playing a San Francisco detective in a wheelchair in *A Man Called Ironside*.

Charles Denton, head of drama at the BBC and a founder member of One in Eight, thinks that such things matter. According to Denton, seven million people in the United Kingdom — or one in eight of the population — have some sort of disability. He believes that as television dramatists and film-makers are gradually trying to improve the representation of so-called minority groups such as women, black people and homosexuals, the next step towards creating a fairer and more accurate representation of society will be through integrating disabled people into their work.

He says: "A lot of people get quite embarrassed by the idea of disability because they are not familiar with it. Children sometimes regard disabled people as curious because they don't often see them. I am not speaking on behalf of the BBC, but I will be trying to use my position mercilessly to raise awareness of disability. I want to include disabled people on television drama as a natural part of everyday life and not as a problem or a concession to political correctness."

Richard Rieser, another founder member of One in Eight and chairman of the disability campaign group Integration Alliance, acknowledges that negative stereotypes of disabled people are nothing new.

They date back to the concept of the body beautiful extolled by ancient Greek and Roman philosophers. In English literature, Shakespeare's *Richard III* and Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* equated disability with sinister or evil people. The imagery persists in the late 20th century in films from *Dr Strangelove* and *Dr No* to *A Nightmare on Elm Street*.

Dustin Hoffman as Captain Hook in *Hook*, reinforcing stereotypes of disability

Dustin Hoffman's portrayal of Hook, in Steven Spielberg's 1991 film based on J.M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*, was far more frightening than the character in the original book, Rieser says. "Hoffman's Hook even had overtones of child abuse," he adds.

The film *Born on the Fourth of July*, starring Tom Cruise as a disabled Vietnam war veteran, suggested that disabled people were incapable of having a worthwhile relationship. Rieser says, while on television, the recent BBC1 sitcom, *The Vicar of Dibley*, starring Dawn French, made a joke about blind people.

Even advertisements for charities can reinforce negative images of disability either through the "super-cripple/triumph over tragedy" stereotype or by portraying disabled people as pitiful. A recent advertisement by the British Diabetic Association, for example, described a ten-year-old girl as living "under the shadow of diabetes".

Rieser has discussed the issue with BBC producers and One in Eight now plans to run training sessions with other producers, writers and directors. The group has also enlisted the support of leading actors, including Lindsay Duncan, Jane Horrocks, William Hurt, Alan Rickman, Sir Ian McKellen, Timothy Spall, and Alan Cumming.

Richard Broke, a BBC drama producer who is himself in a wheelchair, says that American drama producers lead the way in integrating disability into popular fiction. "*LA Law* frequently shows jurors in wheelchairs. In a British programme, if you see someone in a wheelchair, you know that there has to be a story in it and in the next scene they will probably get run over by a lorry."

One in Eight can expect resistance from some programme makers, however. Corrine Hollingsworth, executive producer of *EastEnders*, has already put on the record her opposition to suggestions from what she calls "people in ivory towers" on how best to recreate everyday life in a way that is entertaining.

Sick man of health insurance revives

PPP has put £20m into a TV relaunch, reports **Alan Mitchell**

Pick up any broadsheet newspaper this week and you're likely to find a long, wordy advertisement from Bupa touting the broad range of its services. It is not Bupa's normal style but it had to move fast. Arch-rival Private Patients Plan begins a £20 million marketing campaign this week and something had to be done to neutralise its effect.

For Private Patients Plan it is make or break time. The public's perception of it as a common-or-garden insurance company has become its "ball and chain", declares new chief executive Peter Owen, a former British Airways executive.

His goal? To emulate the AA and RAC's achievement in motoring: turning basic insurance into an "added value" service that consumers positively appreciate. Only that way can the industry extend its appeal beyond the still small 11 per cent of UK citizens who buy health insurance. Andy Brown, marketing director, says: "We want to create a brand that 'owns' healthcare. It is a classic marketing challenge to redefine the market."

And to redefine the company: a complete corporate makeover, including an organisational restructuring, a new management team, a culture change programme, a new name (PPP healthcare) and a new corporate logo lie behind its first ever TV advertising. There is also a raft of new products and services, including a free, 24-hour medical information helpline, new teams of multi-skilled personal advisers to answer all customer queries in a single call, and new packages aimed at previously neglected groups such as youngish, healthy men and women.

Chris Webster, PPP healthcare's head of brand marketing, says: "In one fell swoop we have moved from being an inward-looking insurance company to a customer-facing organisation." Marketing-speak at its worst? Perhaps. But the company desperately needs to change. Its previously low-key marketing means that nearly one in five of its own customers aren't even aware it exists, even when presented with its name. A recent example of this negative awareness: one corporate PPP client of 16 years boasted Bupa cover as a perk in a job recruitment advertisement. In comparison, in just four years, Norwich Union has grabbed 9 per cent of the market.

PPP's new commercials, from Maurice Saatchi's agency M&C Saatchi, feature a guardian angel which looks after individuals from cradle to grave. Consumers want a more personal approach, says Mr Brown. Bupa's two-year-old "amazing" campaign stresses wellbeing rather than sickness. There is more to healthcare than just paying claims, says Peter Smythe, Bupa's head of brand management. "People need healthcare advice and you can't expect an insurance company to give that advice. People are prepared to spend more to keep themselves well."

Among the new services he is testing are an over-the-phone medical advice service for people who "do not have time to be ill", and a health programme monitored by a personal adviser following up on screening tests to tackle dietary, stress or exercise issues.

Two thirds of the market is still accounted for by the corporate sector and demand for private healthcare is driven by two factors: price, and the number of people in senior management, says William Laing, of market analysts Laing & Buisson. Despite the well-publicised travails of the NHS, predicted market growth has not materialised.

PPP's first TV commercials emphasise a personal touch

Battle of the spins washes Blair whiter

But **Simon Brooke** says conferences are only the beginning

The political parties' annual conferences can be a week-long party political broadcast or a week of public bloodletting. Although the party faithful will applaud their leaders the real audience is the voters outside the hall. They receive their information through newspapers, TV and radio — which can prove more uncooperative and unpredictable than the assembled activists.

There is more pressure on the parties' spin doctors at conference time than at any other to get the best media coverage. Labour pulled off a neat public relations coup at the start of the Liberal Democrat conference with an interview in this paper in which Tony Blair offered the Lib-Dems some form of electoral co-operation. The upset this caused the Lib-Dems illustrates how vulnerable and exposed a political party is during its conference.

But in a rare example of political bad karma for Labour, Mr Blair's keynote speech, still awkwardly positioned at the beginning of its conference week was upstaged by the O. J. Simpson verdict. Despite clumsy entreaties by Mr Blair's press secretary, Alastair Campbell, ITN ran the Blair speech second on *News at Ten*. The BBC's *Six* and *Nine O'Clock News* led with the speech (in keeping with their more heavyweight style) but fiercely denied caving in to pressure from Mr Campbell. The Corporation's Director-General, John Birt, condemned Mr Campbell's attempts as "crass and inappropriate".

The warning was clearly a shot across Tory spin doctors' bows for this week.

Press coverage of the Blair speech was, however, very positive even from the traditional Tory press: "inspirational", said the London *Evening Standard* while *The Sun* praised it as "the most remarkable ever made at a Labour conference".

A senior Tory source ruefully congratulated Labour's spin doctors on Labour's generally favourable coverage but pointed out that the conference was very successful (almost uniquely the leadership won every card vote) and added: "It's always easier to spin good news." Similarly, the Tories had planned to provide their conference news team with plenty of meat to throw to the pack with a series of positive government initiatives during the week.

However, Labour engineered another very successful spoiler by persuading former minister Alan Howarth to announce his defection on the vital Sunday before the conference. Once again, ministers fielded on all the main Sunday television political programmes to push their own individual positive messages were forced on the defensive. But the Tories hope that small technical improvements may help to some degree; for example they have moved the Prime Minister's speech to Friday morning to enable BBC1, not BBC2, to cover it live and so double its audience.

The parties have begun to expand their press offices in preparation for the next election. The Tories and Labour have made changes at the top with the appointment of new communications chiefs.

Hugh Colver, formerly head of information at the Ministry of Defence and British Aerospace, recently became the Conservative Party's director of communications, and Labour headhunted Joy Johnson from her post as BBC's Westminster news editor, a role which included managing the coverage of the party conferences. This year, the Lib Dems' Judith Fryer experienced her first year as party spin doctor, too.

The style of this year's conference spinning will be maintained when the parties return to Westminster. Tony Blair may radiate wholesomeness but his press team have proved themselves to be aggressive and bullying to the point where some political journalists are predicting a backlash. Another political commentator added that the Central Office press staff may continue to improve their efficiency and "take a thoughtful and imaginative approach to putting across the party's message, but if the rest of the party doesn't want to help, there is little it can do".

ITV covets classic adaptations

ALTHOUGH its popular drama programmes continue to dominate the television ratings charts, ITV is beginning to look jealously at the audience delivered by the BBC's classic drama adaptations writes *Alexandra Frean*.

The first episode of BBC1's latest offering, Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, attracted an impressive 9.5 million viewers. When you add in the figures from the repeat showing of the episode on BBC2, the audience rose to more than 11 million.

In an attempt to imitate this success and to stifle growing criticism from advertisers who want a little variety from the successful middlebrow popular dramas (*Soldier Soldier*, *London's Burning*, *The Bill*) that the channel churns out so well, ITV has now poached the team behind *Pride and Prejudice* to produce a two-hour film version of Jane Austen's *Emma* for screening next year.

Although it holds the top four places in our chart, ITV is still not performing quite as well as last year, according to an analysis by CIA Medianetwork, the media buying agency. The channel's highest rating programme in our chart, *Heartbeat*, attracted 16.3 million viewers — one million fewer than the highest rating programme on ITV for the same week a year ago, *Coronation Street*, which had 17.3 million viewers on September 19 1994.

THE TIMES TOP 20: DRAMA PRODUCTIONS

September 18-24, 1995

	Programme	Date	Time	Channel	Producer	Genre	Audience (millions)
1	Heartbeat	Sun 24	19.30	ITV	Yorkshire Television	Series	16.3
2	Coronation Street	Mon 18	19.29	ITV	Granada Television	Soap	16.0
3	London's Burning	Sun 24	21.04	ITV	LWT	Series	14.1
4	Soldier Soldier	Tue 19	21.01	ITV	Central Television	Series	13.9
5	Casualty	Sat 23	20.08	BBC1	BBC	Series	13.8
6	EastEnders	Tue 19	19.31	BBC1	BBC	Soap	13.7
7	The Bill	Fri 22	20.01	ITV	Thames Television	Serial	11.3
8	Emmerdale	Tue 19	19.00	ITV	Yorkshire Television	Soap	10.4
9	Pride And Prejudice	Sun 24	21.00	BBC1	BBC/A & E Network	Serial	9.5
10	Neighbours	Mon 18	17.37	BBC1	Grundy Int Ops Ltd	Soap	9.3
11	Dangerfield	Fri 22	21.34	BBC1	BBC	Serial	8.2
12	Class Act	Thu 21	20.33	ITV	Cinema Verity	Serial	8.0
13	Home And Away	Mon 18	18.01	ITV	Seven Network Australia	Soap	7.9
14	Medics	Fri 22	21.00	ITV	Granada Television	Series	7.7
15	Backup	Thu 21	21.34	BBC1	BBC	Serial	7.0
16	The X-Files	Mon 18	21.02	BBC2	Ten Thirteen/20th Century Fox	Series	6.8
17	Due South	Tue 19	20.02	BBC1	Alliance Communications	Series	6.3
18	Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman	Sun 24	18.36	ITV	CBS/Sullivan Company	Series	6.1
19	Brookside	Tue 19	20.31	CHA4	Brookside Productions	Soap	4.5
20	Baywatch	Sat 23	17.25	ITV	Tower 12/Baywatch Prod Co	Series	4.0

BARB (Broadcasters' Audience Research Board)/David Graham & Associates. 01823-322829
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THE TIMES/DILLONS DEBATE

Trust: the secret of economic success?

■ THE most important issue facing industrial democracies is economic competitiveness. What makes some countries more successful than others? Are some nations blessed with the Midas touch?

Francis Fukuyama, who challenged the political and historical establishment with his controversial *The End of History and the Last Man*, is back. His latest book, *Trust: The Social Virtues and the Creation of Prosperity*, targets the world of business and global trade. He will argue at this *Times*/Dillons debate that trust between business people is the secret of economic success. A country's social and cultural characteristics determine its prosperity. Philosophers John Gray and Roger Scruton will debate this bold thesis with Fukuyama.

Chaired by Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, the debate is on Wednesday October 18 at Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1, at 7.30pm. Tickets at £10, which includes £2 off Fukuyama's book, are available by telephoning 0121-703 8113/8114, by faxing the coupon below on 0121-703 8109, or by sending the coupon with your remittance to Dillons Marketing, Royal House, Prince's Gate, Homer Road, Solihull, West Midlands, B91 3SA.

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THE TIMES TODAY

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11 1995

NEWS

Portillo leads Tory EU onslaught

■ Michael Portillo reclaimed the leadership of the Tory Right with an outspoken attack on Brussels, endorsed by the Prime Minister, which confirmed that the Conservatives will play the Euro-sceptic card at the next general election.

The Defence Secretary won ecstatic acclaim at the party conference for an unashamedly nationalist speech in which he roamed beyond his ministerial brief to defend British sovereignty and call on schools to teach the real history of heroes and bravery .... Pages 1, 6, 7, 16, 17

Nanny tells of assault by Wests

■ Rosemary and Frederick West abducted a teenage hitch-hiker and subjected her to a protracted and violent sex ordeal, occasionally breaking off to give her cups of tea, Winchester Crown Court was told .... Pages 1, 3

Workfare expansion

John Major is set to announce an expansion of workfare-style schemes to curb long-term unemployment and to ease the rising social security bill .... Page 1

Horse professor

Cambridge University is to unite turf and gown by appointing the first professor of race-horse breeding. Dr Twink Allen, an expert in horse fertility, will use the chair to rear a new generation of champion racers .... Pages 1, 17

Schools pledge

Headmasters of leading independent schools promised to open their doors to more pupils from low-income families, whichever party wins the next general election .... Page 2

Making history

An American company director made legal history when she became the first witness to give evidence to an industrial tribunal via a transatlantic satellite link .... Page 2

Model boycott

Top fashion models have been urged not to appear in some best-selling women's magazines because of their erotic photography and the obsession with sex in certain titles .... Page 4

WPCs sold drugs

Two policewomen who admitted possessing and supplying drugs were jailed .... Page 5

Cut-price opera

An impresario is to stage "a people's opera" at the Albert Hall, with top tickets cheaper than those at the Royal Opera House, and will keep the cost down by ignoring union rules on manning .... Page 8

Space missions at risk

Scores of space missions, including one to Mercury, are at risk because Britain wants to make deep cuts in Europe's space science budget .... Page 10

Strike halts France

A pay strike by five million public-sector workers paralysed much of France in the most aggressive display of union might for at least a decade .... Page 11

PLO thwarts release

Israel's attempt to release nearly 1,000 Palestinian prisoners degenerated into chaos as the Palestine Liberation Organisation said that hundreds would refuse to leave .... Page 12

Race tensions rise

Washington is bracing itself for the most significant black power march in decades amid fears that the event could ignite further racial tension in the wake of the O.J. Simpson trial .... Page 12

Power fuels ceasefire

The Bosnia ceasefire was set to take effect at 12.01am today after gas and electricity began to trickle into the capital .... Page 13

Feminists deplore life of British bee

■ America's political correctness campaigners have a new heroine: a female British bee. A scientific journal has presented her as a classic animal victim of sexual harassment. She is constantly pestered for sex by her male partner, a small but energetic specimen, but at the same time must find the family home, look after the young and go out to work .... Page 12

CHARLES PLATIAU

Service Public !
la Privatisation !

Post office staff marching through Paris yesterday as part of a one-day pay strike by millions of public-sector workers. Page 11

BUSINESS

Banking: Directors of the TSB approved a £5 billion takeover by Lloyds Bank .... Page 25

Legal block: Bondholders who lost more than £50 million in the Barings collapse failed in their application to challenge the legal right of the Serious Fraud Office to take over the bondholders' private prosecution and then bring it to a halt .... Page 25

Jobs: Index, the high street catalogue chain owned by Littlewoods, is to create 560 jobs in a £29 million expansion .... Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 50.2 points to close at 3460.1. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 84.6 to 84.5 after a fall from $1.5848 to $1.5776 and from DM2.2369 to DM2.2366 .... Page 28

SPORT

Football: England's match in Norway is more an occasion for them to discover a functional style away from home than to avenge a World Cup defeat .... Page 48

Rugby league: Wales have escaped punishment for mistakenly fielding one more than the four permitted substitutes in their World Cup match against France .... Page 48

Tennis: Steffi Graf has withdrawn from the Brighton tournament this month and is unlikely to play again until a tournament in Philadelphia in November .... Page 48

Racing: Declan Murphy made a winning return 17 months after a fall that nearly cost him his life, riding Jibereen to victory in the Annual Flat v Jump Jockeys Challenge at Chepstow .... Pages 43, 48

Establishment exposé: It was not simply homosexuality that John Osborne was writing about in his 1965 play *A Patriot For Me*: he was actually taking pot shots at England .... Page 35

A smile on his face: Tommy Steele works hard to make sure that everyone has a good time at his new West End song-and-dance extravaganza, which is called *What a Show!* .... Page 35

Young at Art: Meet the hard-working choristers of Carlisle, the boys who sing for 10p a service. But girls are excluded .... Page 36

Dutch treat: Amsterdam is dazzled by every theatrical trick in the book in Peter Stein's new staging of Schoenberg's opera *Moses und Aron* .... Page 37

Tale of two ambassadors: Julia Llewellyn Smith contrasts the life and times of Britain's envoys to Paris and Beirut .... Page 15

Fashion: Iain R. Webb reports from Milan on the simple lines in next spring's wardrobe .... Page 14

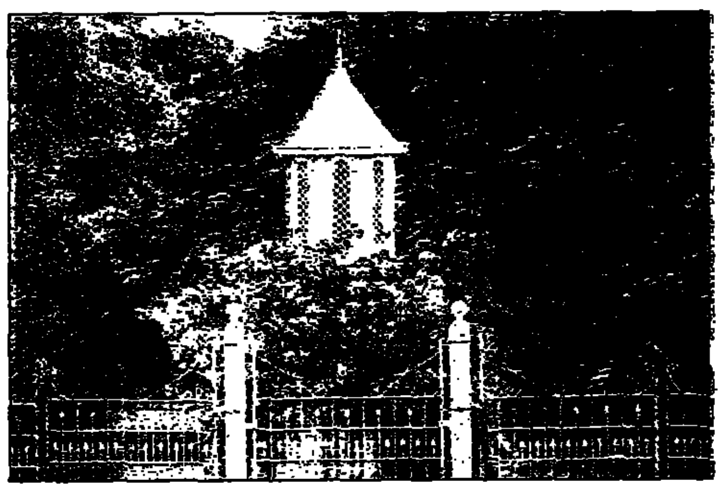
Period dramas: In our desire to restore Georgian architecture we may be removing historical character .... Page 21

Ready, willing, disabled: One in Eight aims to counter the media's negative representation of disabled people .... Page 23

Modern tradition: The 400-year-old Tonbridge boys' school is undergoing a £20 million development programme .... Pages 32, 33

Capitol Hill's cuts in the budget for gathering statistics could cost government, business and workers big bucks later. In the information age, decision makers cannot afford to be left in the dark — *USA Today*

As long as this country runs big budget deficits financed by foreign borrowing, it will continue to need exchange rates that, unfortunately, produce big trade deficits — *The Washington Post*



IN THE TIMES

■ TRAVEL NEWS
No hidden extras and nothing more to pay: are all-inclusive holidays better value?

■ BOOKS
Arthur Miller's new novel runs to only 50 pages, but Bernard Levin is captivated

Preview: The gimmick-free cook returns in *Delia Smith's Winter Collection* (BBC2, 8pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss on the curious case of WPC Ackland's cat .... Page 47

OPINION

On floor and fringe

There was a strong sense of direction among Conservatives at Blackpool. From conference floor and fringe, Michael Portillo and John Redwood dominated events. They articulated the European policy that party representatives wanted to hear .... Page 17

Carey and Khartoum

Dr George Carey, by his visit to the country and by his expression of human solidarity, has at least shown there is no gulf between a vigilant Anglican Church and Sudan's suffering Christians .... Page 17

Equine opportunities

The younger of the two ancient universities has, consistently, been modernist in its studies since the renaissance. Today Cambridge University gazettes the appointment of the first professor of equine reproduction .... Page 17

SIMON JENKINS

Mr Major does not know what he really believes. He is decency personified. He is wet but dry, soft but hard. His conference speech on Friday will be the usual concoction of lapidary pledges and clichés. He will believe passionately, but in nothing in particular. He has become Paddy Ashdown in long trousers .... Page 16

BYRON CRIDDLE

The decline in the number of Conservative MPs from traditional high-status professions is showing up in the educational profile of the Tory benches .... Page 16

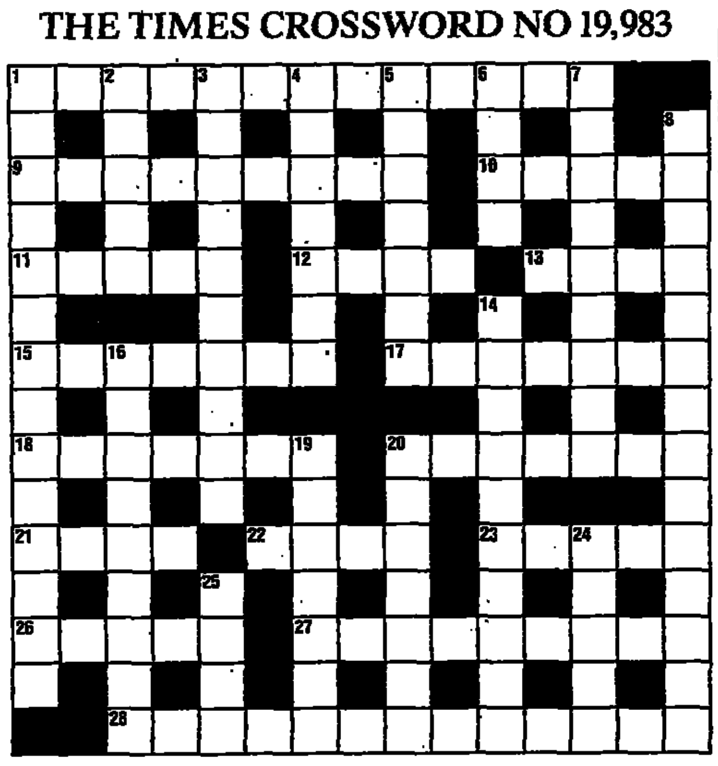
PETER RIDDELL

A truce has been declared between the leadership and the sceptics over Europe — and it is largely on the latter's terms .... Page 6

John Cairncross, Foreign Office and Treasury official and spy; **Patric Walker**, astrologer; **Sir Philip Oppenheimer**, diamond company chairman .... Page 19

MP's move to Labour; GCSE grades; Seamus Heaney .... Page 17

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,983



ACROSS

1 *Originally thinkers had to guess* (4,2,3,4).
9 I have an adverse effect on one state, all the same (9).
10 Hidden drawback in contract (5).
11 Speak of value ... (5).
12 ... speak of fine food (4).
13 Possibly 6 fish (4).
15 *Involve in return of ball caught in* tree (7).
17 5 in ten chance the leaders get knocked out (7).
18 The spider and the fly (7).
20 Working, redoing what's overlooked (7).
21 Free party given by international organisation ... (4).
22 ... a party that's theatrical (4).
23 "Götterdämmerung" features in such a vocabulary (5).
26 Young man, one who is under instruction? (5).
27 Sock — good one missing cheek (9).
28 Spiritualists used to alter circumstances completely (4,3,6).

DOWN

1 Successful bowler may get moving (4,4,6).
2 Put up with love — a repertory *theatre* ... (5).
3 ... might be so described, all things considered (2,3,5).
4 Cut flat's rent — that's diplomatic (7).
5 Add to the confusion in general (7).
6 The leaders in abandoned race could have finished (4).
7 Recruiting officer supplying gear and food, accommodating an indefinite number (9).
8 Author in French city died surrounded by birds (7,7).
14 Rabbit cheers almost everybody up (10).
16 Periods devoted to booze and marijuana, where vision is impaired (5,4).
19 Man who is practical about a roll (7).
20 I am over the hill, in a cul-de-sac (7).
24 Opposed to a road being put up for sale (5).
25 Fog makes you puff, short of *breath initially* (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,982

```
PLIANT LEVERAGE
 A D R E I O A 
CRADLESONG MILK
 V R B N O A L 
CAMELLIA RANCID
   S E R O   V 
DENS   DRUMHEAD
 R E C O S I N 
ASTEROID   LATE
 T   R A A L   
AWAKEN VAGABOND
 H U I I L I O 
PINK CONGEALING
 L R H C A L G 
BERIBERI MAYHEM
```

Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Gloucs, Avon, Soms	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops, Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information 24 hours a day dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Southend, Essex, 21C (70F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Highland, 12C (54F); highest rainfall: Cape Wrath 0.16in; highest sunshine, Edinburgh, 9.7hr

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** after a misty start, especially in southern areas, most of England and Wales will have a warm, dry day with some sunshine. However, there may be a little drizzle over western coasts and hills. It will be dry with some sunshine in eastern Scotland. In the northwest and over the Northern Isles it will be cloudy and some rain can be expected, especially in the evening.

Northern Ireland will be bright and dry but there is a chance of some showers later. It will be windy.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, Central N:** misty start, becoming brighter with some sunshine. Wind south to southwest, light. Warm. Max 21C-23C (70F-73F)

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England:** mostly dry, some sunny spells. Perhaps a little drizzle in the west. Wind south, light to moderate. Warm. Max 18C-21C (66F-70F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Moray Firth:** mostly dry, some sunny intervals. Breezy. Wind south to southwest, fresh. Quite warm. Max 17C-20C (63F-68F).

☐ **Central Highlands, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland:** cloudy with a few showers. More persistent rain later. Windy. Wind south, strong to gale. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** bright at times. Rain later. Windy. Wind south, strong. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **N Ireland:** bright start but chance of a shower later. Breezy. Wind south to southwest, fresh to strong. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **Outlook:** mostly dry and warm in the south. Rain at times in the north.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

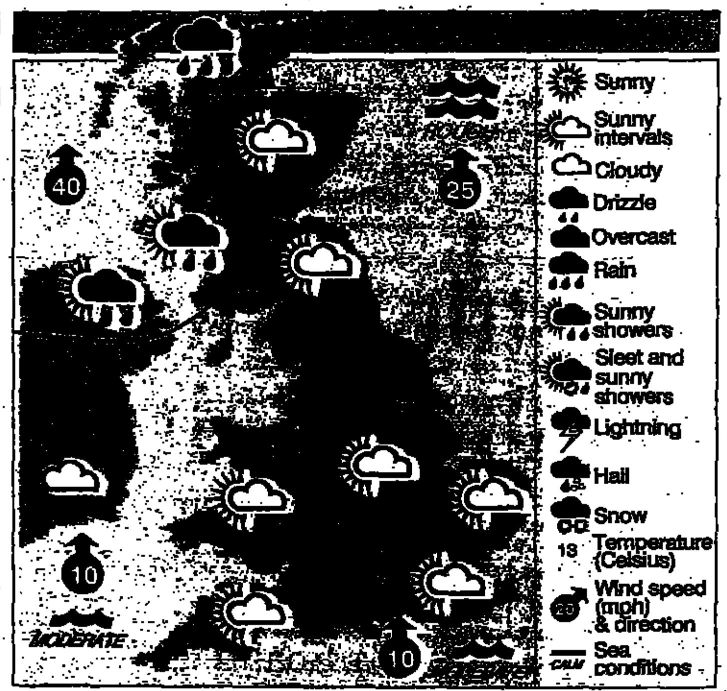
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	7.5	-	16	61	s	London	4.3	-	20	68	b
Anglesey	8.4	-	17	63	s	Lowestoft	5.9	-	20	68	s
Aspatria	8.5	-	17	63	s	Manchester	8.7	-	19	66	s
Aviemore	3.8	0.09	13	55	sh	Margate	5.8	-	19	66	s
Belfast	6.2	0.02	15	59	b	Minehead	7.5	-	19	66	s
Birmingham	8.3	-	18	64	s	Morecambe	8.8	-	17	63	s
Bognor R	5.7	-	20	68	b	Newcastle	X				
Bournem'th	3.2	-	19	66	b	Newquay	7.6	-	17	63	s
Bristol	6.9	-	18	64	s	Norwich	X	-	20	68	b
Buxton	7.9	-	16	61	s	Nottingham	X				
Cardiff	7.1	-	17	63	s	Oxford	7.1	-	20	68	s
Clacton	8.2	-	17	63	s	Penzance	X	-	18	64	s
Colwyn Bay	X					Plymouth	X				
Cromer	5.1	-	17	63	s	Poole	2.8	-	19	66	c
Doncaster	X					Prestatyn	X	-	18	64	b
Dunbar	X					Ross-o-wye	9.1	-	19	66	s
Eastbourne	3.4	-	19	66	s	Ryde	X				
Edinburgh	9.7	-	16	61	s	Salcombe	6.5	-	19	66	b
Eskdalemuir	6.1	-	15	59	s	Sandown	3.8	-	19	66	b
Exmouth	6.8	-	18	64	b	Saunton Snd	6.9	-	19	66	s
Falmouth	9.4	-	21	70	s	Scarboro'	6.4	-	20	68	s
Fishguard	7.5	-	17	63	s	Shanklin	5.0	-	18	64	b
Folkestone	9.2	-	21	70	s	Shrewsbury	X				
Glasgow	7.5	-	16	61	sh	Skegness	7.0	-	20	68	s
Guernsey	0.7	-	18	64	c	Southend	5.5	-	21	70	s
Hastings	4.0	-	20	68	fg	Southport	X				
Hayling I	3.8	-	19	66	b	Southsea	3.3	-	19	66	c
Hove	4.3	-	20	68	b	St. Ives	X				
Hunstanton	7.3	-	19	66	s	Stornoway	6.9	0.02	12	54	sh
Ilfracombe	X					Swanage	1.5	-	19	66	b
Isle of Man	7.8	-	17	63	s	Teignmouth	7.4	-	18	64	s
Jersey	6.2	-	19	66	s	Tenby	7.8	-	17	63	s
Kinloss	8.2	0.01	14	57	s	Tiree	7.8	0.05	13	55	sh
Leeds	8.7	-	18	64	s	Torquay	6.0	-	19	66	b
Lerwick	5.5	0.08	13	55	h	Tynemouth	7.3	-	17	63	s
Leuchars	8.5	0.02	15	59	sh	Ventnor	4.7	-	19	66	b
Littlehmptn	4.3	-	20	68	b	West-s-mare	X				
Liverpool	7.0	-	18	64	s	Weymouth	4.5	-	19	66	b

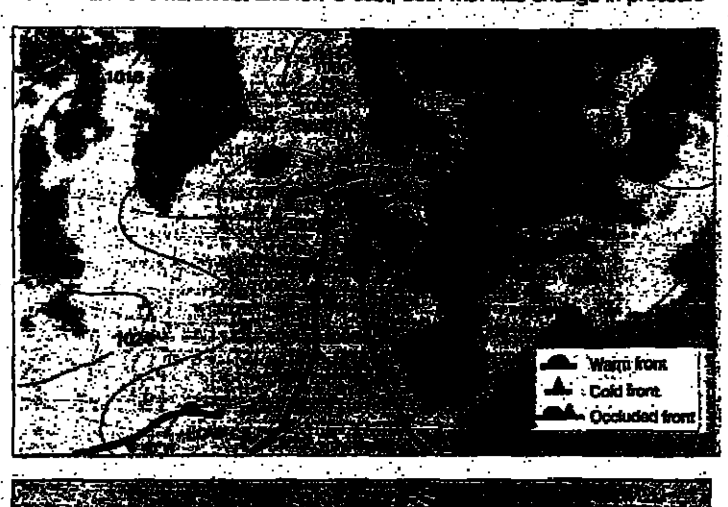
ABROAD

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	23	73	f	Corfu	24	75	s	Madrid	21	70	s	Rome	25	77	s
Akrotiri	27	81	s	C'phagn	18	64	s	Majorca	25	77	s	S Frisco	15	59	f
Alex'dria	27	81	f	Dublin	14	57	c	Malaga	23	73	f	S Paulo	21	70	c
Algiers	27	81	s	Dubrovnik	23	73	s	Malta	24	75	f	Salzburg	21	70	s
Amst'dm	21	70	s	Faro	24	75	f	Melb'rne	X			Santiago	24	75	s
Athens	23	73	f	Florence	24	75	s	Mexico C	X			Seoul	22	72	s
B Aires	13	55	f	Frankfurt	20	68	s	Milan	23	73	s	Sing'por	31	88	f
Bahrain	33	91	s	Funchal	25	77	s	Montreal	13	55	f	St'kholm	20	68	s
Bangkok	29	84	f	Geneva	18	64	s	Moscow	12	54	c	Strasb'rg	16	61	f
Barbados	28	82	s	Gibraltar	21	70	c	Munich	20	68	s	Sydney	16	61	s
Barcelona	22	72	s	Helsinki	15	59	s	N Delhi	32	90	f	Tangier	23	73	f
Beirut	25	77	f	Hong K	29	84	c	N York	19	66	s	Tel Aviv	26	79	s
Belgrade	22	72	s	Innsbrck	21	70	s	Nairobi	24	75	f	Tenerife	26	79	f
Berlin	22	72	s	Istanbul	20	68	f	Naples	26	79	s	Tokyo	21	70	s
Bermuda	27	81	s	Jeddah	38	100	s	Nice	24	75	s	Toronto	X		
Biarritz	27	81	s	Jo'burg	28	82	s	Oslo	14	57	c	Tunis	26	79	f
Bordx	22	72	s	Karachi	37	99	s	Paris	24	75	s	Valencia	24	75	s
Brussels	23	73	s	L Angels	21	70	f	Peking	18	64	s	Vanc'ver	13	55	r
Budapest	23	73	s	L Palmas	28	82	s	Perth	18	64	c	Venice	24	75	s
Cairo	28	82	s	Le Touquet	24	75	s	Prague	18	64	s	Vienna	21	70	s
Cape Tn	17	63	s	Lisbon	25	77	f	Reykjavik	6	43	f	Warsaw	18	64	c
Ch'church	10	50	X	Locarno	22	72	s	Rhodes	24	75	s	Wash'ton	21	70	s
Chicago	21	70	s	Luxembg	20	68	s	Rio de J	28	82	s	Wel'ngton	15	59	X
Cologne	23	73	s	Luxor	33	91	s	Riyadh	36	97	s	Zurich	15	59	c

Temperatures at midday local time X = not available



Changes to chart below from noon: high H will remain stationary and decline; low A will move northeast and low C east, both with little change in pressure



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2:59	7.33	3:11	7.19	Leith	3:40	5.61	3:59	5.47
Aberdeen	2:20	4.32	2:42	4.18	Liverpool	0:13	9.55	0:30	9.18
Avonmouth	8:29	13.50	8:47	13.40	Lowestoft	10:32	2.59	10:53	2.42
Belfast	0:01	3.52	0:19	3.51	Margate	1:21	4.85	1:30	4.80
Cardiff	8:26	12.33	8:48	12.11	Milford Haven	7:26	6.97	7:44	6.89
Devonport	7:00	5.44	7:16	5.37	Newquay	6:17	6.65	6:35	6.75
Dover	0:04	6.83	0:16	6.75	Oban	6:42	4.00	7:04	4.01
Dublin	0:32	4.18	0:57	4.07	Penzance	5:51	5.36	6:07	5.32
Falmouth	6:34	5.16	6:49	5.04	Portland	7:57	2.15	8:14	2.08
Glasgow	1:55	4.75	2:10	4.81	Portsmouth	0:23	4.71	0:42	4.72
Harwich	1:00	4.08	1:12	4.13	Shoreham	0:30	6.29	0:45	6.29
Holyhead	11:30	5.49	11:47	5.53	Southampton	-	-	0:01	4.58
Hull	7:26	7.63	7:46	7.38	Swansea	7:32	9.50	7:51	9.44
Ilfracombe	7:12	9.25	7:33	9.10	Tees	4:43	5.44	5:05	5.29
King's Lynn	7:33	6.82	7:52	6.65	Walton-on-Nze	0:55	4.22	1:06	4.29

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Sun rises: 7.17 am
Sun sets: 6.17 pm
Moon sets 10.14 am
Moon rises 7.45 pm
First quarter October 15

London 6.17 pm to 7.19 am
Bristol 6.27 pm to 7.28 am
Edinburgh 6.24 pm to 7.37 am
Manchester 6.23 pm to 7.29 am
Penzance 6.40 pm to 7.39 am

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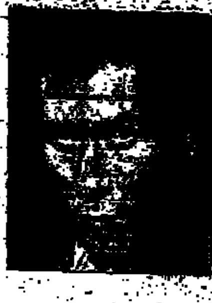

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Looking back at John Osborne's angry patriotism

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Tonbridge School chapel rises from the ashes

SPORT 42-48

Papua's hopes resting on Lam's shoulders

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Pages 46,47

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11 1995

Shares dive on Wall St losses

By Michael Clark and Richard Thomson

SHARE prices on the London stock market and across Europe fell sharply in the wake of further heavy losses on Wall Street.

In London, the FT-SE 100 index tumbled almost 70 points at one stage, before ending 50.2 down at 3,406.1 as more than £11 billion was wiped from the value of Britain's publicly quoted companies.

It was prompted by a sharp sell-off in technology stocks in New York, triggered by disappointing third-quarter figures from Motorola and growing concern over the state of the economy. Shares went into free-fall minutes after the market opened, forcing the New York Stock Exchange to activate the circuit breakers and call a halt to program trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average dived more than 60 points before virtually halving the fall around midday to 34 points at 4,692.62. This latest setback followed a 43-point fall on Monday.

Shares of leading computer companies, such as IBM, Novel, Intel, Microsoft and Texas Instruments, were worst hit in a move that some analysts believe is the beginning of the long-awaited sell-off among high technolgy shares.

The sector has enjoyed a spectacular performance this year, with increases of more than 100 per cent in some companies' share prices.

The gloom was deepened by the expectation of poor results in the third-quarter reporting season, which starts this week. Dealers believe lacklustre results may indicate a general slowdown in the US economy into next year. Any sign of weakness from key companies is likely to trigger a further stock market slide.

Ian Harnett, chief UK economist at Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, said: "Other European markets have also fallen. Back in June, the index was below 3,300. It has risen sharply since then and some consolidation was inevitable.

"This looks like a short-term correction rather than a fundamental problem. It's certainly won't be a repeat of the stock market crash of 1987."

By the close of business yesterday, a total of 828 million shares had changed hands with institutional selling described as light. The high level of corporate activity has provided a prop to the London market and means that fund managers have been reluctant to sell into it.

German shares ended sharply lower. The 30-share Dax index ended floor dealings 29.92 points down at 2,138.77.

A firmer dollar has done little to help to underpin German shares and traders said any dollar weakness could accelerate selling pressure from the current level, the lowest since July.

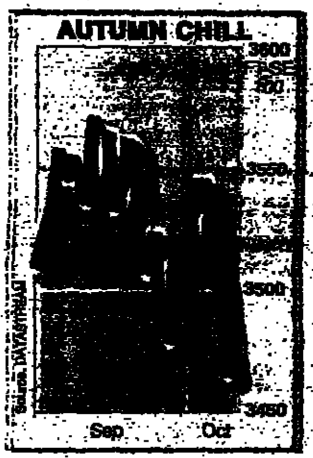
"The market is very volatile and is giving few indications on where it wants to go, other than lower," said Andreas Gaertner, of Société Générale in Frankfurt.

French shares also finished down but well off their session lows as the bourse tracked a recovery in bond prices. The CAC-40 index closed 7.75 down at 1,777.96, after recovering from 1,755.39.

□ The dollar bounced back after the slump in Wall Street prices ran out of steam, near the end of the London day, and foreign exchange dealers grew fearful of central bank intervention to prevent the US currency weakening further.

The pound eased off its early highs against the major currencies, but ended at 84.5 on its Bank of England trade-weighted index, down only 0.1 from Monday.

Pennington, page 27
Stock markets, page 28



AUTUMN CHILL

SFO wins Leeson argument

BONDHOLDERS who lost more than £50 million in the Barings collapse yesterday failed in their application to challenge the legal right of the Serious Fraud Office to pick up the bondholders' private prosecution and then crush it (Robert Miller writes).

The City of London Magistrates Court had earlier granted the Barings Perpetual Noteholders Action Group eight summonses alleging false accounting and obtaining money by deception against Nick Leeson, the trader blamed for the £860 million Barings failure.

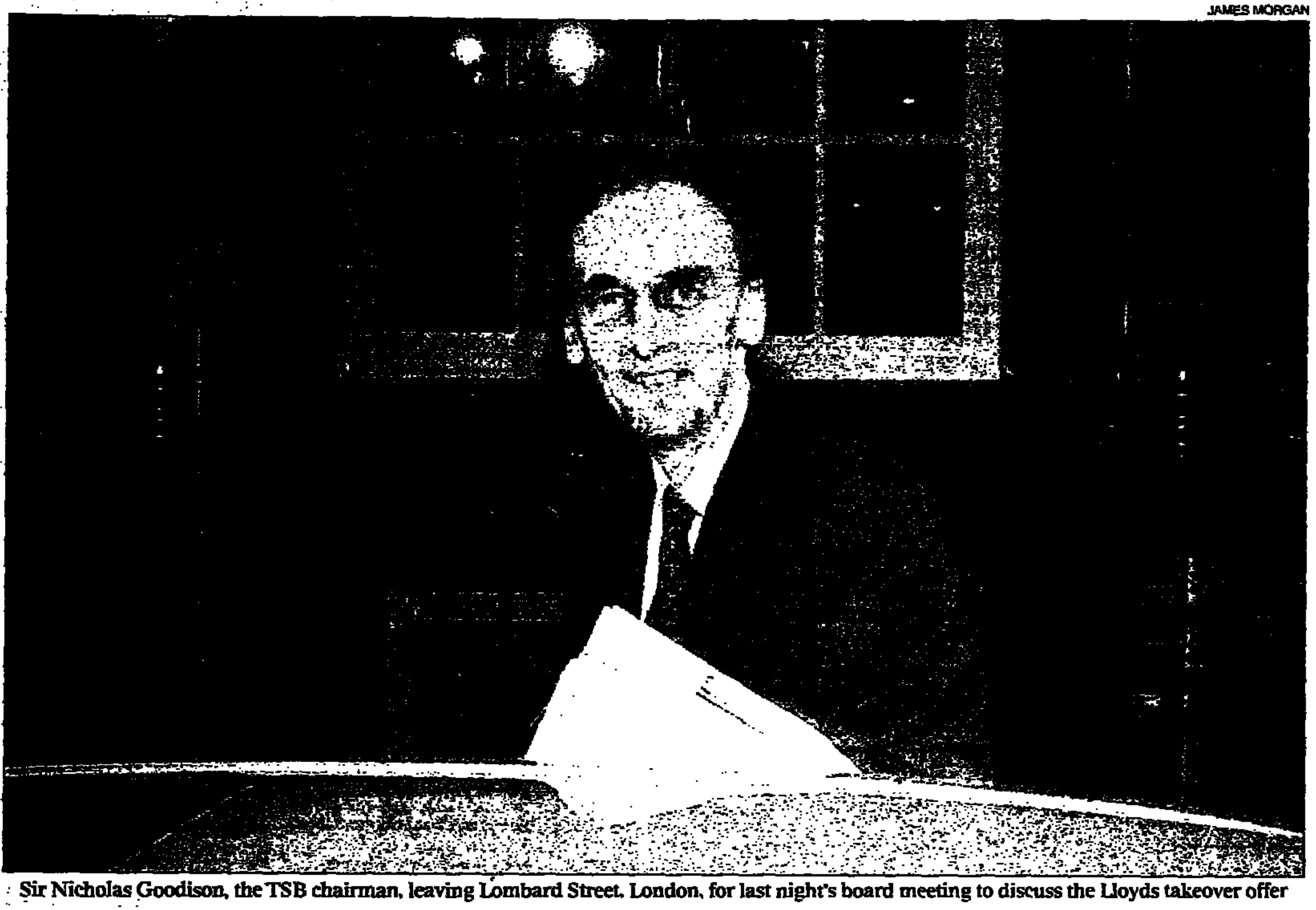
The SFO, which has consistently maintained that Singapore is the proper jurisdiction for Mr Leeson's trial, yesterday won its argument that it was not an abuse of process to drop the private action.

David Harrel of S J Berwin, the bondholders' solicitor, said: "The speed with which the authorities have tried to get rid of this case... has given investors the feeling that their voice is not being heard." The case was adjourned until tomorrow.

Pennington, page 27

Chairman will make over £1.5m from deal

JAMES MORGAN



Sir Nicholas Goodison, the TSB chairman, leaving Lombard Street, London, for last night's board meeting to discuss the Lloyds takeover offer

House prices falling

By Robert Miller

THE latest survey of house prices published today will paint a gloomy picture of the housing market. Prices across all regions are now 2.6 per cent lower than they were in the third quarter of last year, according to the Halifax Building Society.

The latest quarterly survey from Britain's biggest mortgage lender will show that, between the second and third quarters of this year, nine out of the 12 regions recorded house price falls.

The notable exception is Northern Ireland which recorded a quarterly rise of 2.9 per cent, taking the yearly increase to 3.1 per cent. Worst-hit regions include the North, down 2.3 per cent on the quarter and 4.7 per cent on the year, and Yorkshire and Humberside where prices fell 1.1 per cent in the quarter and 3 per cent over the year.

Gary Marsh, of the Halifax, said: "The Chancellor should give a clear indication in his speech to the Conservative Party conference tomorrow that he intends to help the housing market."

Without any official help, Mr Marsh said the housing market would show little, if any, signs of recovery until next spring at the earliest.

Housing hope, page 29

TSB approves £5bn takeover

By Patricia Tehan
Banking Correspondent

TSB directors last night approved a £5 billion takeover by Lloyds Bank. The two sides will spell out how the deal will work later today. TSB customers will be big beneficiaries. They own half the shares after TSB deliberately marketed its shares to customers and employees at the time of flotation in 1986. Half of TSB's one million private shareholders are customers, according to the TSB.

Lloyds' offer values TSB's 1.5 billion shares at 329p each. If shareholders bought at the 100p flotation price, they will make a 229p profit on each share. The agreed deal was arranged by JP Morgan, the US bank, hired by TSB to work out its options. The two sides have been in talks for several weeks, though they have held conversations with each other for the past five years.

In the flotation the bank also gave 150 shares free to its 29,000 employees. That number has since shrunk to 26,000, and the bank yesterday refused to say how many are still shareholders saying some undoubtedly sold shares after the flotation. Staff are believed to hold about a million shares directly and a further 7.1 million are held on behalf of 7,189 employees, or 27.6 per cent of TSB's 26,000 employees, who take part in the TSB group staff share schemes. A takeover will automatically trigger the exercise of such share options. A TSB spokesman would only say: "A significant minority of our employees participate in a save as you earn scheme and they will benefit from this merger. He defined "significant majority" as between 30 and 40 per cent.

Under the executive share option scheme the bank's six executive directors will make paper profits of more than £10 million. Peter Ellwood, the chief executive, will make a paper profit of £2 million on his 838,893 share options shown in last year's annual report. Sir Nicholas Goodison, the chairman, will make £1.63 million. Sir Nicholas also owns 60,525 shares, which will be valued at £199,127. Further options are likely to have been granted this year.

City Diary, page 29

Jobs boost as Index expands

By Our City Staff

INDEX, the high street catalogue chain, is to create 560 new jobs in a £29 million expansion. A new distribution centre will be built at Wednesbury, West Midlands, creating 380 jobs, and three new stores will open in Blackpool, Lancaster and Oldham, each employing 60 staff.

The new distribution centre, costing £14 million, will open in June 1996. The new store in Blackpool will be opened today by Ian Taylor, the Industry Minister, who is attending this week's Conservative Party conference in the town. The Lancaster store will open next week and the Oldham store later this month.

Bob Lancaster, managing director of the Liverpool company, said: "We are making massive investments and creating a large number of jobs in a long term commitment."

The company is part of the giant Littlewoods organisation. It was launched 10 years ago and now has more than 120 stores.

All the stores will create 30 full-time and 30 part-time jobs. Mr Lancaster said: "We are confident in the retail futures of these places and are making a solid investment."

European ruling expected to help cable-TV companies

BT poised for broadcast blow

By Eric Reguly

THE European Commission is expected today to announce that telecommunications companies will not be allowed into the broadcast market, dealing a blow to BT's plans to use its vast network to offer live TV services.

Karel Van Miert, the European Competition Commissioner in Brussels, is said to have decided that cable-TV companies will be given the right to provide a limited range of telecoms services, including data transmission, beginning in January.

But the Commission directive will grant no extra freedoms to the telecoms companies. They had hoped to gain access to the broadcast market in exchange for the cable companies entering the telecoms market. Mike Corkerry, BT's European regulatory manager in Brussels, said: "We are disappointed."

Van Miert: decision

BT got its hopes up earlier this year when the European Parliament argued that the telecoms and cable companies should be allowed to compete with each other in both the phone and broadcast sectors. BT has no cable operations in continental Europe, but thought a directive in its favour would put pressure on the British Government to lift its domestic broadcasting ban.

BT cannot use its network to broadcast live entertaiment until after 2001. Cable companies in Britain, however, are allowed to offer both TV and telephone services. BT's restrictions have been a bonanza for the cable operators, which currently earn more than half their revenue from telephony. BT has been fighting to get the ban lifted. It has argued that the cable companies, most of them controlled by wealthy American, Canadian and French groups, are strong enough to withstand its entry into entertainment delivery.

Last week BT and the Labour Party reached an "understanding" that BT, if Labour wins the next election, would be allowed early entry into the broadcast market in exchange for wiring up every school, hospital and library to the information superhighway. The cable companies cried foul. They argued that they have invested billions of pounds to create the world's most modern electronic network on the assumption they would be protected from BT for a certain number of years. They also argued that BT can enter the broadcast market by buying cable companies. The company, however, has sold all but one of its cable franchises.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES		
FT-SE 100	3460.1	(-50.2)
Yield	4.08%	
FT-SE A All share	1711.85	(-23.20)
Nikkei	Closed	
New York:		
Dow Jones	4691.90	(-34.32)*
S&P Composite	574.67	(-3.70)*
US RATE		
Federal Funds	$5\frac{3}{4}$%*	(unq)
Long Bond	$106\frac{1}{32}$*	(...)
Yield	6.42%*	(...)
LONDON MONEY		
3-mth Interbank	$6\frac{23}{32}$%	($6\frac{3}{4}$%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	$105\frac{7}{16}$	($105\frac{5}{16}$)
STERLING		
New York:		
$	1.5780*	(1.5860)
London:		
$	1.5783	(1.5853)
DM	2.2386	(2.2390)
FFr	7.8310	(7.8685)
SFr	1.8111	(1.8096)
Yen	158.84	(159.22)
£ Index	84.5	(84.6)
DOLLAR		
London:		
DM	1.4188*	(1.4120)
FFr	4.9600*	(4.9615)
SFr	1.1470*	(1.1425)
Yen	100.62*	(100.43)
$ Index	92.7	(92.5)
Tokyo close Yen Closed		
NORTH SEA OIL		
Brent 15-day (Dec)	$15.75	($15.80)
GOLD		
London close	$385.45	($384.65)

* denotes midday trading price

Fat cats

Big salary increases for directors have pushed up the pay expectations of about a third of Britain's workers, according to new evidence on wages from the Confederation of British Industry. Ministers, however, remain sanguine.
Page 26

Slimmer profits

Lloyds Chemists blamed Sunday trading and the National Lottery for stagnating profits. Lloyds said that Sunday trading had hit the group because customers shopped out-of-town rather than in town centres.
Page 27, Tempus 28

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Top pay sets lead for rest, says CBI

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

BIG salary increases for company directors have pushed up the pay expectations of about a third of Britain's workforce, according to new evidence on wages from the Confederation of British Industry (CBI).

Ministers remain sanguine about pay, and Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, is expected in his speech to the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool tomorrow to cite low earnings growth as part of his confidence about low inflation levels.

But figures from the CBI, to be presented to local business leaders in Nottingham today, suggest that the public dispute over boardroom pay — especially in the privatised utilities — has increased the expectations of bigger wage rises for many in the workforce.

The poll, by Gallup, shows that 32 per cent of the sample of employees surveyed say that their own pay expectations are higher as a result of the top pay row.

In the CBI's annual pay and performance presentation, which its officials are giving to groups of business leaders around the country, it warns companies that such pressures don't "needlessly derail" decisions on pay this year.

According to the survey, almost two-thirds of both employers and employees are expecting pay awards this year at the same level, or less, than last year.

For the first time, slightly more employees think their pay increases should be determined by individual merit than by the cost of living.

CBI leaders are urging companies to make only "modest" pay awards this year as Britain's labour costs have begun to rise as those of its competitors have started to fall. They argue for a strong link between pay and performance as recommended by the Government-backed CBI committee on top pay, headed by Sir Richard Greenbury, chairman of Marks & Spencer.

The survey found that 41 per cent of employees would accept that some element of their pay could move down if it led to greater job security.

☐ Young people are being used as cheap labour, working for less pay than ten years ago, according to a new report today. The Low Pay Unit (LPU) pressure group says the wages of under 21-year-olds have fallen sharply since 1985 compared to average earnings.

Bharti Patel, LPU deputy director, says: "Young people are getting a raw deal, finding themselves used as cheap labour and with their hopes and aspirations for the future smashed."

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.19	2.03
Austria Sch	16.76	15.28
Belgium Fr	49.24	44.94
Canada $	2.225	2.065
Cyprus Cyp£	0.756	0.701
Denmark Kr	9 35	8.55
Finland Mkk	7.37	6.72
France Fr	8.28	7.63
Germany Dm	2.40	2.19
Greece Dr	385.00	360.00
Hong Kong $	12.89	11.89
Ireland Pt	1.03	0 95
Israel Shk	5.1556	4.5056
Italy Lira	2645.00	2490.00
Japan Yen	173.00	157.00
Malta	0.598	0.543
Netherlds Gld	2.671	2.441
New Zealand $	2.54	2.32
Norway Kr	10 52	9.72
Portugal Esc	247.50	229.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.51
Spain Pta	201.50	188.50
Sweden Kr	11.67	10.87
Switzerland Fr	1.95	1.77
Turkey Lira	refer	75241.0
USA $	1.681	1.551

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank plc. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Sir Alistair Grant, executive chairman of Argyll, will offer trolleys full of incentives to Safeway customers

Safeway to run loyalty card scheme

ARGYLL GROUP is following in the footsteps of rival Tesco by launching a nationwide loyalty card in its 365 Safeway supermarket stores (Sarah Bagnall writes).

The move is the result of 18 months of trials of various schemes in Safeway stores. Colin Smith, Argyll chief executive, said: "We regard our ABC card scheme as the most imaginative on offer."

Sainsbury, which is testing a scheme in about 200 stores, is widely expected to extend its card nationally.

Analysts said Safeway's scheme is more flexible than Tesco's. Whereas Tesco's offer is limited to products in its own stores, Safeway's includes special offers such as a family day out at Alton Towers or a P&O ferry crossing.

Water regulator appeals for more open accounts

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

IAN BYATT, the water regulator, has urged quoted water groups to be more open about the accounts of their regulated utility subsidiaries, instead of hiding them in group accounts. Mr Byatt said that the new openness should start with the interim results for the six months to September 30, which some companies will issue next month.

Companies do not publicise separate results for their utility subsidiaries, although these must be available for inspection under their licences. Regulated accounts for the year to March 31 are not yet public.

Mr Byatt said companies should explain the basis on which dividends were paid from the water business to the group. "The water companies should explain what returns they have made in their regulated water businesses and what they intend to do with them."

He said that there was not enough public debate on the profits made in the regulated business. Big publicised dividend rises from utilities would increase pressure for early extra benefits to customers.

Most quoted water groups have diversified into anything from water engineering to solid waste disposal. Future group dividend rises might be funded from these. But Mr Byatt also wants to ensure that poor returns are not subsidised by water consumers.

In 1992-93, Severn Trent paid an unexplained one-off dividend of £600 million from Severn Trent Water to Severn Trent plc in order to transfer accounting reserves to the parent company. The cash was reinvested.

Publicity for regulated accounts could also help the companies. Salaries and perks for directors of the regulated utility tend to be far lower than for the quoted group, indicating that the rest is paid by shareholders, not consumers.

Pennington, page 27

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Building materials firms face 'disaster'

BUILDING material companies said yesterday their industry was facing "disaster", with output collapsing. The warning follows building companies' insistence that recession is gripping the construction industry hard, and came as new figures showed that construction orders fell in August. Looking at the state of trade in its industry, the National Council of Building Material Producers said its results revealed "a picture of disaster". Next year showed few, if any, signs of an upturn in demand. The council said half its member companies surveyed reported falling output, with 78 per cent no longer working at satisfactory capacity levels. It particularly criticised the Government's private finance initiative.

Separately, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors warned that a single currency in Europe could hurt the UK construction industry, with "vast cuts" in capital spending projects needed to enable countries to meet the strict convergence criteria set by the Maastricht treaty. But printing leaders said business in their industry continued to improve, with prospects for the rest of the year looking favourable. In its latest survey, the British Printing Industries Federation said three quarters of the industry was working at or close to full capacity, with employment trends also improving. Though paper and board prices are still rising, the federation said many printers were able to pass on increases in their costs.

Bakyrchik Gold woes

BAKYRCHIK GOLD, which came to the market in 1993 with the promise of mining gold in Kazakhstan, is seeking a wealthy investor to help to boost production. Bakyrchik says technical problems associated with the recovery of gold at the plant have led to a drain on cash resources, which currently stand at only $9.5 million. The shares fell 37p to 162p. NM Rothschild, the merchant banker, has been appointed to identify an industry investor. This may result in an offer being made for Bakyrchik, the company admits.

St Ives exceeds £35m

MORE magazines on the newstands and an increase in direct-response mail helped St Ives, the specialist printer, to finish its year with a jump in pre-tax profits. St Ives, Britain's largest independent operation, turned in pre-tax profits for the year ending July 28 of £35.5 million. Compared with last year, disregarding 1994's losses on disposals which came to £4.9 million, the profits were 31 per cent ahead. The final dividend was lifted 33 per cent to 6p, making a total of 8.5p, payable on December 4.

Tempus, page 28

Walker Greenbank hit

A SLOWDOWN in decorating by homeowners and companies held back Walker Greenbank, the wallcoverings and fabrics group. The company, which saw pre-tax profits for the six months to July 31 edge ahead 3 per cent to £4.2 million, said that consumer and business confidence was weaker than a year ago. Charles Wightman, chief executive, said: "It happened suddenly and was not something we had anticipated." The interim dividend, payable December 12, was maintained at 1.3p.

Receivers in at Bullers

BULLERS, the struggling media services and giftware group, has been put into receivership. Scott Barnes and Maurice Whitall, of Grant Thornton, were appointed administrative receivers yesterday and talks are underway with a number of potential buyers for parts of the business. Trading in shares in Bullers was suspended on October 3. In 1994 the company incurred pre-tax losses of £394,000 on turnover of £4.37 million. Creditors, including banks, are owed about £4.5 million.

NBA abolition attacked

GERMAN publishers attacked Britain yesterday for dropping the price-fixing Net Book Agreement, saying the move could affect booksellers throughout the European Union. Roland Ullmer, chairman of the German Publishers Association, speaking at the opening of the world's largest book fair in Frankfurt, condemned the move, which has provoked a flurry of cut-price books, adding that it "fills booksellers and publishers in other EU countries with great alarm". He said similar systems were now under threat.

Dutch hope to engineer Wiltshier merger in UK

BALLAST NEDAM, the Dutch construction and civil engineering group, is in talks with Wiltshier, of Britain, aimed at merging their UK activities (Martin Barrow writes).

Talks are underway between Ballast, which was sold by British Aerospace in 1993, and Harmondsworth (Middlesex), a company established to effect the management buyout of Wiltshier in 1988. Wiltshier's turnover is expected to be £250 million this year. The company employs 1,450 people and operates from nine regional offices. Ballast's UK subsidiary, Ballast Nedam Construction, has annual turnover of £100 million with seven regional offices and 500 staff.

Wiltshier's interests include general contracting, design and management, plant hire and housing.

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London LGW →	Florence	20.25	22.40	1234567
Florence →	London LGW	17.35	19.50	1234567

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☐ SFO rides roughshod over Barings victims ☐ Water regulation here to stay ☐ Falling out of love with high-tech shares

Bondholders out of bounds

☐ AT FIRST glance, it would seem an affront to natural justice for the Serious Fraud Office to step in, take over and then firmly close the private prosecution brought by the Barings bondholders against Nick Leeson, the clear architect of their £50 million-plus losses.

The bondholders have certainly argued this strongly enough up to now, but if the SFO is successful in finally burying the case tomorrow, the bondholders accept that they cannot hope for much joy through the judicial appeal process. The SFO has been able to ride roughshod over their wishes so far because as the prosecuting authority it has the final say over whether such a case can be brought.

This principle is enshrined in the Criminal Justice Act as a precaution against any frivolous or downright mischievous criminal action brought against an individual. The great and the crooked have, in the past, shown a willingness to use the civil law to pursue their vendettas; they should hardly be allowed to extend their activities to the criminal courts.

The Barings bondholders, together with the preference shareholders, aret he only identifiable victims. Bondholders want their man in a London court because a Leeson languishing in Ford Open Prison would be more accessible for their subsequent civil action against the underwriters of the bonds, namely Cazenove, Hoare Govett and BZW.

The magistrate has thrown out their action, and the SFO is now free to drop the case once Leeson's lawyers have had their say in court.

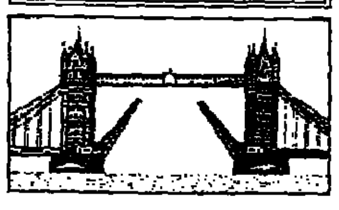
Leeson's actions, in applying for further funds from London, were carried out physically on Singaporean soil. The bondholders have argued that these were minor crimes with no victims there, whereas the true fraud took place in London, and there is enough evidence and sufficient witnesses to support criminal action here.

There is no doubt that rising international flows of capital are blurring the exact locations where financial crime takes place, because such crimes must often be committed across national boundaries.

Singapore is keen to retain jurisdiction because it wants to emphasise the growing supremacy of its own stock market in the Far East by making sure that actions that nearly brought trading to a halt there are seen to be dealt with on home territory. The German authorities, who last week cleared Leeson for take-off back to Singapore only to see his extradition become bogged down in a morass of appeals, have expressed surprise that the SFO has not made its own plea to have him shipped to London.

The SFO has devoted a great deal of effort to ensuring that Mr Leeson does his time in Changi. Its representatives in court yesterday were keen to show a spirit of international co-operation with Singapore. The trouble is, that spirit has not always been reciprocated.

PENNINGTON



Through a glass, clearly

☐ WATER companies think that the public wilfully misunderstands them and should therefore be given only carefully processed information. Statutory accounts of the regulated business do not come in that category, not least because they are mostly based on current cost accounting. Accounts of the quoted groups are written in historic costs, often producing quite different numbers.

Keep the public in the dark and you avoid a lot of tedious questions, such as why regulated water utilities paid hundreds of millions in dividends to their parent groups, merely in order to shift the accounting reserves to group level. Secrecy also helps pay for consultants and analysts, who scour "secret" regulated accounts and interpret their meaning to the City.

Whatever happens to the Government's regime of regulatory socialism in gas, electricity and telephones — and don't wait for it to wither away in five years — regulation of monopoly water companies is here to stay. If companies want to keep the price cap system, they had better learn to live with transparency. Ian Byatt's gentle insistence that they publish separate utility results should be to their advantage.

If diversification funds strong real dividend growth, boards need to explain that this largesse is not coming from the utility business. If extra water dividends make good failures in other businesses, investors need to know. If the utility is delivering more than expected, customers will want a cut earlier than the five-yearly review.

Had the companies been smarter, they might have avoided most of the boardroom "fat-cat" controversy. Utility accounts would have shown that most of the fat comes from investors in the quoted group, not from payments by consumers to directors of the regulated business.

Mr Byatt is also looking ahead. Shortly, Northumbrian Water is at last likely to face a bid from Lyonnaise. More could follow. As electricity bosses have noticed, the great advantages of being taken over is that your activities can be hidden in the twilight world of subsidiaries. Regulators should ensure that the public is not left in the dark.

Wall Street bleats, London follows

☐ THERE is nothing like a good old-fashioned knee-jerk reaction to show up the inconsistencies of the London stock market. London is, by any objective measure, overvalued, but probably not as overvalued as Wall Street given the respective performance of both markets.

US dealers, already braced for bad news from big industrial groups this autumn, were falling out of love with go-go technology stocks on Monday, prompted not least by whispers that Windows 95 might not be the godsend to the computer industry that had been hoped. This trend, however, had been largely overlooked by a London market dominated by the Lloyds/TSB merger and other takeover gossip.

By yesterday afternoon, London had caught up with events sufficiently to match Wall Street's opening fall point for point; and the FT-SE tracked the Dow with suspicious precision for much of the afternoon. Gloom on the London market is understandable, given the political uncertainties — business leaders may increasingly be backing more than one horse in the election race by funding Tony Blair, but that does not mean they are at ease with the idea of a Labour government.

But there is no reason why a lack of appetite for overpriced high-tech US stocks should prompt quite such an abrupt sell-off of blue chips in the City, other than the sheer perversity of a London market dominated by US securities houses that takes its lead from any bleat and whimper from Wall Street.

Told you so

☐ THE proliferating snapshots from a dismal housing market are a classic example of the self-fulfilling prophecy in economics. Never mind that such blanket assessments hardly tie in with experience in the real world, which is that some parts of the country are doing very nicely, thank you, while others are not shifting at all, at any price. More to the point, there is nothing like bad news from those on the front line to scare off the few potential buyers.

Retail woes blamed by Lloyds Chemists

By Sarah Bagnall

ALLEN LLOYD, chairman at Lloyds Chemists, yesterday blamed Sunday trading and the National Lottery for stagnating profits at the retail group.

Mr Lloyd said the deregulation of Sunday trading had hit the group's drugstore division as customers opted to shop at out-of-town sites rather than town centres.

He described the move as the "most significant change in retailing for over a decade. In under a year it has brought about a marked alteration in consumer spending patterns, with Sunday now being the second busiest trading day in the week".

Referring to the National Lottery, he said an average of £100 million was being spent a week on tickets and retailers who were not selling tickets were suffering.

"There has been a noticeable decline in discretionary consumer expenditure in some of the less affluent areas of the country," he said.

Mr Lloyd's remarks came as the retailer reported a drop in pre-tax profits from £58.3 million to £42.2 million in the year to June 30. The decline partly reflected a £13.4 million exceptional charge relating to the restructuring of the drugstore division, announced in March.

Group sales rose 15 per cent to £1.1 billion. The results were in line with forecasts, but gloomy news on current trading sent the shares down 12p to 230p.

The decline in underlying profits reflected the reversal of fortunes at the drugstore division. It lost £3.7 million against a profit of £1.3 million last time. Store closures total 108, 25 of which have been converted into Holland & Barrett outlets. A further 20 will be converted into new health and beauty formats.

The remaining 175 drugstores are due to be converted into the new format within 18 months.

The group's other divisions all reported record profits. The chemist division lifted profits from £43.1 million to £45.1 million, helped by a major flu epidemic.

Mr Lloyd said the chemist stores had not been affected by Sunday trading as they were community based.

Holland & Barrett lifted profits by 43 per cent to £7.3 million, while the pharmaceutical division profits rose 24 per cent to £16 million. Veterinary profits rose from £3.5 million to £3.9 million.

The final dividend of 7.3p lifted the total for the year by 7.4 per cent to 10.2p and Mr Lloyd said the increase reflected the board's confidence in the group's future prospects.

"All the parts of the business, apart from the drugstores, are doing very well and the problems with the drugstore division have been dealt with substantially," he said.

The dividend is being paid on December 14 out of pre-exceptional earnings of 29.3p.

Tempus, page 28

RPR buys more shares in Fisons

TWO institutional investors have sold their holdings in Fisons, the drugs company fighting a takeover bid from Rhône-Poulenc Rorer (RPR), the Franco-American pharmaceuticals group that last week raised its offer from £1.7 billion to £1.83 billion (Eric Reguly writes).

Clerical Medical, a British fund manager that owned 1.42 per cent of Fisons, and Sun Life of Canada, which owned 1 per cent, sold their shares yesterday at 265p, the value of RPR's revived offer.

RPR now owns about 21 per cent of Fisons shares. Shareholders have until October 20 to to decide whether to accept RPR's offer.

Fox Television plans to buy more American stations

By Eric Reguly

RUPERT MURDOCH, chairman of The News Corporation, parent company of *The Times*, said Fox Television will buy more stations in America once the current market share restrictions are lifted.

Fox has 12 US stations giving it about 23 per cent coverage. Federal law prevents it from exceeding 25 per cent. The new Telecommunications Act should raise that limit to 35 per cent and possibly up to 50 per cent. Mr Murdoch, speaking at News Corp's annual meeting in Adelaide, Australia, said he is "confident" that the Telecommunications Act will not be vetoed.

Fox became the number four TV network in the 1980s after acquiring six stations from Metromedia for about $1.5 billion. It has since grown rapidly and claims the number three viewing position in the 18-49 age group, behind ABC and NBC, ahead of CBS.

The stations, with profit margins of 50 per cent, are generating strong returns. But Mr Murdoch said advertising was headed for "some softening" in the next quarter. He did not say which stations Fox would like to buy, but it is understood that a shortlist of acquisition candidates has been drawn up. Stations in large cities can cost $200 million or more, suggesting that Fox's plan to grow to 35 per cent coverage could cost as much $1 billion.

Mr Murdoch said News Corp's newspapers in Britain and Australia were performing well in spite of the sharp rise in newsprint costs. Prices had climbed as much as 50 per cent and were expected to rise a further 10 per cent over the next 12 months.

Today is the one problem area. Mr Murdoch said: "It is a very good paper, but in a crowded field, it is finding it hard to grow." News Corp announced earlier its net profit rose to A$1.365 billion (£657 million) in the year to June 30 (A$1.335 billion).

JJB profits delight City

By Sarah Bagnall

JJB SPORTS, the chain of sports shops run by Dave Whelan, the former Blackburn Rovers footballer, pleased the City yesterday with an 89 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to 4.8 million in the six months to July 31.

The news lifted the shares 11p to 419p — nearly double the 215p at which the company floated its shares on the stock market last November. The rise in profits, achieved on the back of a 51 per cent rise in sales to £37.5 million, prompted analysts to lift their full-year forecasts.

Mr Whelan said the group, which ended the period with 139 stores, had opened three out-of-town superstores since August. These stores, which have activity areas where customers can play football and basketball, are proving very successful, he said. Reflecting this, the group plans to open four more during the second half.

In the first half, sales rose in all categories of merchandise — footwear, clothing, replica kits and equipment. Replica kit sales accounted for 20 per cent of total sales, up from 16 per cent last time. This reflected more new kit launches by the larger football clubs in the first half. Clothing sales fell from 37 per cent to 33 per cent of group sales.

Mr Whelan said the company has continued to make good progress in the second half, with sales in the first eight weeks up 11 per cent and like-for-like sales ahead 46 per cent. The dividend, due on December 11, was lifted from 1.04p to 2.75p and is being paid out of earnings of 10.36p, up from 6.55p last time.

Tempus, page 28

Heading for success: David Whelan, chairman of JJB

North West extends Norweb bid

By Eric Reguly

NORTH WEST WATER, which is expected to raise its bid for Norweb before the weekend to counter a white knight bid from Texas Energy Partners, has extended its offer until October 23 after receiving just 0.47 per cent acceptances.

This raised its effective control to 12.14 per cent after its purchase of 11.67 per cent in the market. Texas Energy has not been buying shares in the market. North West is expected to raise its bid by about 40p per share, which would bring its cash offer to 1115p.

Texas Energy Partners, composed of Houston Industries and Central & South West, have offered 1085p in cash, up 3.3 per cent from its opening bid.

☐ North West announced that its rights issue, 86.3 per cent subscribed, raised £121.1 million before expenses.

Party's over for political parties

By Colin Narbrough

COMPANY donations to political parties, which have almost exclusively gone to the Conservatives, are in decline in the face of increasing demands from institutional and individual investors for more say in how profits are used.

The decision by Tate & Lyle to start to donate money to Labour looks unlikely to be widely followed.

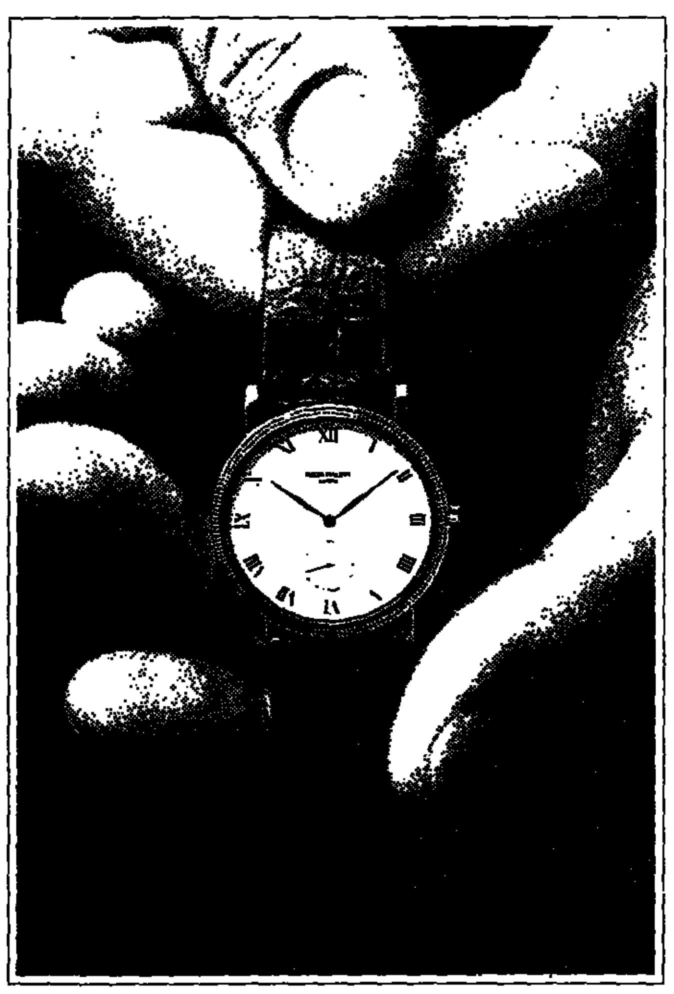
Although Conservative Central Office says that most of its corporate backers are still contributing, Tory accounts show a drop of about £1 million in the level of funding to about £2 million. Analysis by Pensions Investment Research Consultants (Pirc), an organisation that advises on corporate governance, shows that at the end of August only 46 companies of 232 big companies in its latest survey had made a political donation this year, compared with 56 last year.

The survey extrapolates that donations from Britain's 250 top companies would give the Conservatives £1.52 million this year, up slightly from last year, but well below the £2.2 million in 1991 and 1992. Of the 13 companies, which reported that they halted donations in the past year, 11 were former Conservative donors.

Ardent ideological support from captains of industry and commerce does not necessarily translate into company funding. Lord Sheppard of Didgemere's Grand Metropolitan does not give any money to Central Office. Among the companies that have ended their funding for the Conservatives are Whitbread, United Biscuits, Rank, Glaxo Wellcome, Cookson and Vodafone. Rolls-Royce cut its contribution from £60,000 to £35,000. Trafalgar House halved its funding to £10,000.

Stuart Bell, research director at Pirc, the trend was "clearly away from making political donations". Pirc has been urging company boards to ask shareholders for their approval before giving money to political organisations as part of its wider drive for accountability.

For more than a century and a half. Patek Philippe has been known as the finest watch in the world. The reason is very simple. It is made differently. It is made using skills and techniques that others have lost or forgotten. It is made with attention to detail very few people would notice. It is made, we have to admit, with a total disregard for time. If a particular Patek Philippe movement requires four years of continuous work to bring to absolute perfection, we will take four years. The result will be a watch that is unlike any other. A watch that conveys quality from first glance and first touch. A watch with a distinction: generation after generation it has been worn, loved and collected by those who are very difficult to please: those who will only accept the best. For the day that you take delivery of your Patek Philippe, you will have acquired the best. Your watch will be a masterpiece, quietly reflecting your own values. A watch that was made to be treasured.



Men's Calatrava - Ref 3919

PATEK PHILIPPE
GENEVE

London: Patek Philippe Showroom, Asprey, Garrard, Watches of Switzerland Ltd. • Stratford-Upon-Avon: George Pragnell Ltd. • Scotland: Hamilton & Inches Ltd., Watches of Switzerland Ltd. • Channel Islands: Hettich Ltd., Jewellers & Silversmiths Ltd. • Belfast: John H. Lunn Ltd. • Dublin: Weir & Son Ltd. • Chester: Boodle & Dunthorne • Leeds: Berry's.

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Dow opening plunge gives London a fright

WHEN Wall Street sneezes, London invariably catches a cold. Yesterday was no exception.

As the Dow Jones industrial average extended Monday night's 42-point fall in early trading yesterday, the FT-SE 100 index had no choice but to go with the flow. A disappointing set of third-quarter figures from Motorola provided the signal for the sell-off in New York which saw the Dow plunge more than 60 points at one stage, before halving the fall later in the session.

But the rally came too late to bring much relief to London where the index ended the session 50.2 down at 3,460.1, having been almost 70 points lower earlier in the day.

Much of the damage was inflicted by the futures market where the index was driven down through the 3,491 resistance level.

Institutional selling was light. With so much corporate activity at present, fund managers are reluctant to sell the market and seem happy to ride any short-term corrections. By the close of business, less than 800 million shares had change hands.

When business resumes in London this morning, the bargain hunters are expected to be out in force.

Among leaders, **Pearson** stood out with a rise of 5p to 602p, still reflecting the break-up value of £9 placed on the shares by Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker. But **Glaxo Wellcome** fell 15½p to 758p, worried by the threat of increased competition for its Imigran drug used for treating migraine.

TSB retreated 2p to 351p, but still remains 22p above the expected merger terms from Lloyds Bank. The sides confirmed they were in talks on Monday and are expected to issue details of the proposed £15 billion deal some time this week. **Lloyds**, 6p cheaper at 720p, will speak for 70 per cent of the enlarged company with TSB controlling the balance. By the close of business, a further 13 million TSB shares had traded.

Meanwhile, City speculators tried to focus on the next likely bid target with the hot money laid on **Standard Chartered**, up 18p at 484p, on turnover of almost 7 million shares. Standard is not new to takeover speculation. It was the subject of an aborted takeover bid from Lloyds in the 1980s and was only saved by the intervention of several white knights.

This year, the Standard share price has gone from strength to strength, reflecting better trading conditions in the banking world and the conviction on financial markets that the group will eventually be bid for.

Other potential suitors are thought to include **Royal Bank of Scotland**, up a further 7p at 491p, and **Bank of Scotland**, 2p firmer at 242½p. A merger between the two might make sense and enable them to compete head-on in the growing financial market. The threat of increased competition from the rapidly expanding Lloyds left **Barclays** 20p down at 724p, **National Westminster** 28p off at 598p, **HSBC** 32p off at 888p and **Abbey National** 10p lighter at 546p.

Shares of **Bakyrchik Gold** tumbled 37p to 162p as the company sent out an appeal for a partner to help to develop its Kazakhstan gold mine project. The company says the project is just too big to develop on its own. Nick Bridgen, finance director, said the company needed a partner with the technical and financial strength to see the project through to the end.

Full-year figures from takeover favourite **Lloyds Chemists** failed to live up to expectations, leaving the shares 12p lower at 230p. Pretax profits tumbled by almost 30 per cent to £42.2 million after provisions totalling £13.4 million relating to the reorganisation of its drugstore business. Brokers have begun downgrading their profit estimates for the current year.

News of a drop in profits also left **Thorntons**, the chocolates supplier, 4p lower at 149p. David Mitchell has quit as managing director in this country, before the appointment of a new chief executive. The new man has still to be named but is said to have extensive retailing experience.

Difficult trading conditions held back **Walker Greenbank** in the first half and left the shares 1½p easier at 80p. The group has forecast a stronger second half.

St Ives, the printer, is starting to benefit from a £40 million investment programme which has increased capacity in both this country and Europe.

Profits last year grew 31 per cent and further strong growth is envisaged. The share price responded with a jump of 9p to 414p.

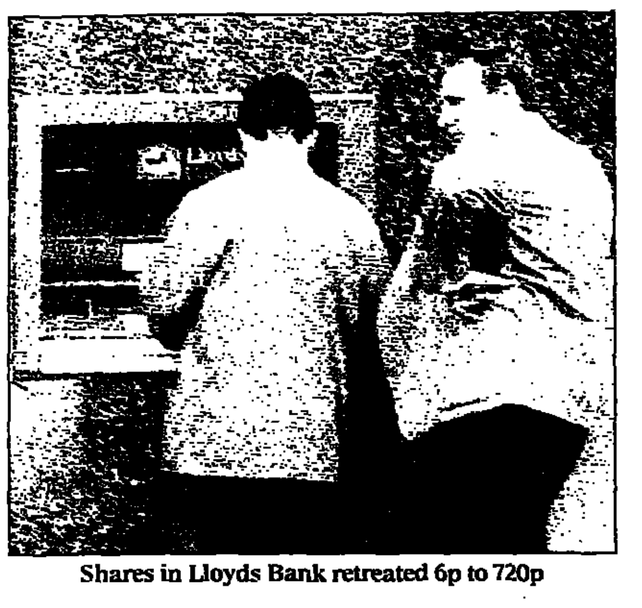
Newcomer **JJB Sports**, the sports goods retailer, also pleased the market with a sharp jump in first-half profits and news of an 11 per cent rise in like-for-like sales during the first eight weeks of the second half. The shares rose 11p to 419p.

Quality Software surged 75p to 705p, in spite of revealing terms of a rights issue to raise almost £15 million. The proceeds with be used to help to pay $11.5 million for Global Software, the US software specialists. The news came as Quality Software announced interim pretax profits up from £604,000 to £805,000.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** London was dragged lower by opening falls among US treasury bonds. Gilts had been fairly resilient up until lunchtime but were unable to buck the trend in both New York and the London equity market. However, prices managed to close off their worst.

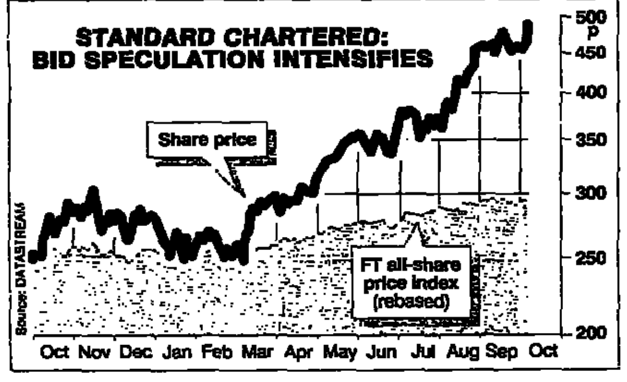
In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt touched £104¹⁵/₁₆ before closing £⅛ easier at £105³/₁₆. Turnover reached 47,000 contracts. In the cash market, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2013 lost £⁷/₃₂ at £96⅞, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £⅛ easier at £101¹⁹/₃₂.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares on Wall Street steadied after morning losses. By midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was 34.32 points down at 4,691.90.



Shares in Lloyds Bank retreated 6p to 720p

BOC was one of the few top 100 shares to finish higher, up 3½p at 833p. Brokers were positive after meeting the company last night. Cost-cutting and better trading in gases should be reflected in first-half figures. The group is expected to move further into Europe with acquisitions. Profit upgrades are expected.



Source: DATASTREAM

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	4691.90 (-34.32)
S&P Composite	574.67 (-3.70)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	Closed

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	9730.92 (-132.52)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	454.62 (-3.84)

Sydney:

AO	2062.2 (-28.6)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2138.77 (-39.92)

Singapore:

Straits	2114.83 (-23.76)

Brussels:

General	7779.36 (-50.45)

Paris:

CAC-40	1777.96 (-7.75)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	691.10 (-5.20)

London:

FT 30	2553.5 (-42.7)
FT 100	3460.1 (-50.2)
FT-SE Mid 250	3903.2 (-49.9)
FT-SE-A 350	1730.1 (-24.4)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1377.54 (-20.91)
FT A All-Share	1711.85 (-23.20)
FT Non Financials	1826.21 (-24.19)
FT Fixed Interest	111.04 (-0.40)
FT Govt Secs	92.78 (-0.16)
Bargains	33744
SEAQ Volume	828.5m
USM (Datastrm)	178.93 (-1.94)
US$	1.5776 (-0.0072)
German Mark	2.2366 (-0.0003)
Exchange Index	84.5 (-0.1)

Bank of England official close (4pm)

£:ECU	1.1991
£:SDR	1.0578
RPI	149.9 Aug (3.6%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	148.6 Aug (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Consolidated C (50)	65	...
Euro Sales Fin	125	...
German Slr Wts	20	- 2
Hay & Robertson	38	...
Mayflower (65)	88	...
MultiMedia (45)	60	- 1
Murray Vct	105	...
Omnicare	86	- 1
Pemberstone	60	...
Pictet British (100)	102	...
Preston Nth (400)	400	...
SCS Sat Sys (125)	123	...
Uni Salvage (149)	184	...
Upton & Sthn Wts	½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Alumasc n/p (320)	100	...
Anglo-East n/p (105)	16	...
Baris n/p (16)	2	...
Close Bros n/p (275)	32	- 4
Forth Ports n/p (490)	85½	- 6½
Johnsn Mat n/p (500)	81	...
RMC n/p (950)	119	- 6

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Royal Bk Scot	493p (+9p)
Stand Chart	486p (+20p)
A Cohen	690p (+100p)
Kalamazoo	100p (+7p)
Chrysalis	323p (+15p)
Mang Bronze	202p (+9p)
Lloyds Abbey	479p (+14p)
JJB Sports	419p (+11p)
St Ives Gp	414p (+9p)
FALLS:	
Abbey National	548p (-8p)
Barclays	725p (-19p)
HSBC	891p (-29p)
Airflow Stream	230p (-40p)
Pnsm Leisure	128p (-10p)
Filtronic	414p (-28p)
Euro Disney	199p (-13p)
Brit Bio-Tech	820p (-48p)
Unipalm	410p (-22p)
MFI	138p (-7p)
MAID	261p (-13p)
Danka Bs Sys	525p (-18p)
REXAM	370p (-14p)

Closing Prices Page 30

TEMPUS

Casualty of good health

GOOD health bodes ill for Lloyds Chemists and the lack of coughs, colds and general splutterings during the hot summer months has taken its toll of the company's financial health.

The trouble spot is the drugstore division, which collapsed into loss last year. Some action has been taken to rid the group of its ailments, such as the closure of 133 stores and the conversion of 20 stores to the group's health and beauty format.

These conversions are experiencing mixed fortunes — an event that does not auger well because companies tend to convert the best of their portfolios first. A further 175 are still to be transformed.

The plight of the drugstores overshadowed the performances of the remaining divisions, each of which made record profits. The shares responded to yesterday's news by falling 5 per cent, erasing some of the gains caused by relentless bid speculation. Rumours that Tesco or Kingfisher have been sniffing around the company have helped to lift the shares from a low of 180p to more than 240p. But this compares unfavourably with the 325p that the shares commanded as recently as last August. The decline reflects the drugstore restructuring revealed earlier this year.

The group has more than 900 pharmacies and with the market ascribing a goodwill value of about £500,000 for each outlet, the company looks undervalued. The shares are trading on a fairly undemanding rating of about eight times. But given the lack of any firm takeover offer, fears of worse to come and doubts about management's ability the rating looks fair.

St Ives

ALTHOUGH the information superhighway is speeding ahead many people are still keen on the printed word. St Ives, the media and publishing group, thrives on both.

Growing interest in electronic news and entertainment has swollen existing computer magazines and led to a proliferation of new ones. St Ives has not only high-tech buffs to thank; it has also benefited from an upturn in magazine output and from publishers switching orders.

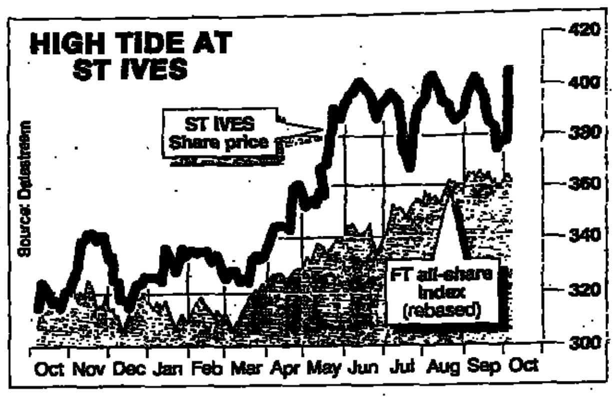
Furthermore St Ives has navigated the choppy waters of book publishing to penetrate the European market further. Its interest in multimedia packaging enables it to ride the information technology wave as well.

The happy year-ending for St Ives is not an accident, but the result of investment and a stubbornness with prices.

Over the past five years, St Ives has fed £100 million into its business while many of its competitors were unable to come up with the ready cash to nourish such growth.

St Ives is able to offer a more flexible service to its customers and has been able to crank up its margins from 11.5 per cent in 1994 to 13.4 per cent.

The company has yet to benefit from the latest round of investment which should start to bear fruit next year. Some £48 million has been put into new plant and machinery this year, including two new factories which will boost capacity by about 12 per cent.



Source: Datastream

JJB Sports

IF JJB Sports was a football team, it would be topping the Premiership. In the first half, the company notched up a blistering 89 per cent leap in profits, prompting the City's sporting types to lift their full-year forecasts.

The sharp rise in profits reflects the company's commercial strategy of shunning the fashion sports goods market in favour of selling professional standard products. Footwear accounts for the largest part of sales, contributing 39 per cent, but the contribution of replica kits rose from 16 per cent to 20 per cent. JJB is benefiting from the increase in kit launches by the big football clubs.

Profits growth has been aided by the group's rapid store-opening programme in town centres, and a further six are planned for the second half. This is less than last year and reflects the move to expand into larger out-of-town sites. These have been fitted out with activity areas where customers can play football and basketball. Since the end of the first half, three have been opened and are trading successfully. A further four are planned in the UK this year. The shares look attractive in spite of trading on 16½ times prospective earnings.

Cobham

COBHAM, the aerospace group, has weathered the defence industry recession and seems to be in good shape for the future in spite of pockets of turbulence in a challenging market. Cobham has benefited from continued demand by armed services for updated and more efficient equipment and systems. Defence aerospace accounts for the bulk of Cobham's business, with the military dominating.

The outlook for the civil aircraft industry, which provides the group with about one-third of its revenues, has also stabilised after years of uncertainty and is now likely to enjoy a modest upturn.

At first glance, the group's £300 million order book looks flat. But it is now edging up and Cobham has won some important orders. The group's FR Aviation arm is undertaking some prestige work for the Royal Air Force and has been nominated by the US Air Force as Boeing's principal subcontractor for the supply of the air-to-air refuelling equipment. Full production is due to commence in January 1997 over an anticipated five-year period, which would involve up to 75 aircraft conversions each worth over £1 million to FR Aviation.

Analysts are looking for full-year profits of more than £29 million, which puts the shares on a forward price/earnings multiple of about 16.5 times.

This may be a slight premium to the market but Cobham is accelerating mildly, justifying the rating.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	887-886	Mar	1007-1005
Mar	916-915	May	1020-1019
May	934-933	Jul	unq
Jul	951-950	Sep	—
Sep	969-968		
Dec	987-986		Volume: 2591

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	2294-2282	Jul	2050-2040
Jan	2199-2195	Sep	2025-2005
Mar	2140-2130	Nov	2000-1980
May	2085-2080		Volume: 4049

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Aug	313.7-13.0
Spot: 383.2		Oct	287.4-87.0
Dec	340.5-40.0	Dec	285.9-84.0
Mar	320.5-20.0	Mar	284.3-81.5
May	316.7-16.0		Volume: 2111

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on October 9

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	100.95	100.60	125.99
(+/-)	+1.86	-2.19	-0.64
Eng/Wales:	101.19	100.79	125.87
(+/-)	+2.06	-1.57	-0.69
(%)	+3.0	-9.0	-13.0
Scotland	91.89	99.80	127.15
(+/-)	-4.20	-3.51	+0.03
(%)	+2.0	-8.0	-35.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	15.95	-0.05
Brent 15 day (Nov)	15.90	(n/c)
Brent 15 day (Dec)	15.75	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Nov)	17.20	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	16.95	-0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 172 (+2)	O: 174 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	148 (n/c)	149 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Oct	149 (n/c)	150 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Nov	149 (n/c)	150 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	84 (+1)	86 (n/c)
Naphtha	152 (-1)	153 (-2)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Oct	146.00-46.25	Jan	149.50-48.75
Nov	147.25-47.50	Feb	148.25-48.75
Dec	148.00-48.25		Vol: 18346

BRENT (6.00pm)

Nov	15.88-15.90	Feb	15.55-15.57
Dec	15.73-15.74	Mar	15.51 SLR
Jan	15.63-15.65		Vol: 34430

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Nov	115.65	Nov	107.70
Jan	118.20	Jan	110.90
Mar	120.20	Mar	113.35
May	122.30	May	115.25
Jul	123.50	Sep	104.00
Volume: 281		Volume: 58	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	275.0	273.0
May	unq	327.5
Jun		360.5
		Volume: 45

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Nov 90.50-91.00

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Oct 95	1725	1710	1720
Nov 95	1685	1660	1685
Dec 95	1675	1650	1673
Jan 96	1665	1630	1665
Vol: 208 lots		Open Interest: 3409	

Index 1794 -15

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2827.0-2828.0	2789.0-2789.5	1098600
Lead ($/tonne)	595.50-596.00	602.00-603.00	119550
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	991.00-991.50	1015.0-1016.0	607650
Tin ($/tonne)	6195.0-6200.0	6240.0-6245.0	20730
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1696.0-1696.5	1732.0-1732.5	1271400
Nickel ($/tonne)	7845.0-7850.0	7985.0-7990.0	51558

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Alld Dom	500	10½	22½	30½	5½	21½	24
(*504)	550	0	5½	12	46	57½	58½
Argyll	330	7	13½	20½	3½	14	19
(*334)	360	0	7½	14	26	33	35½
ASDA	100	5	9½	11½	1	3½	5½
(*103½)	110	1	5	7	7	9	10½
Boots	550	12	27	40	4	16	21
(*556½)	600	0	8	17½	46½	48½	51½
Br Airways	420	29	45½	56½	0	5½	9
(*448½)	460	0	19½	32	7½	20	24½
BP	420	39½	44	49	0	3½	7
(*459)	460	5½	18	24	5½	16½	22
Br Steel	160	9	12½	17½	1	5	7
(*167½)	180	0	3½	7	13	16½	18
C & W	390	21	35	45½	1	11	15
(*410)	420	2½	19	29	12½	25	29
CU	550	16	36	46½	2	15	27½
(*563)	600	0	14	23½	37	42	56½
ICI	750	41½	62½	73	0½	10	21½
(*790)	800	6	33	43½	14½	28½	44½
Kingfishr	460	40	52½	63½	0	7	16
(*499)	500	7	25½	38½	5	21	32
Land Sec	550	50½	56½	66½	0	2½	7
(*599½)	600	6½	21½	33½	6	18	24½
M & S	420	5½	18	27½	4	14½	18½
(*421½)	460	0	4	11	38½	42½	44
Nat West	550	48½	63½	70	0	7	16½
(*597½)	600	8½	31	39	9½	24	38½
Sainsbury	420	9½	23½	31½	2	9	13
(*429½)	460	0½	7	12½	30½	34	36
Shell	700	47	62½	72	0	3	9½
(*746)	750	5	26	36½	8½	16½	29
Smith Bch	600	42	54½	66	0	10½	15½
(*641)	650	3½	24	37	13	29	36
Storehse	300	6	16½	22½	3	11½	14½
(*303½)	330	0	5	10½	26½	30½	32
Trafalgar	25	4	6½	8½	0	1½	4
(*27)	30	1	4	6	2	6½	7
Unilever	1200	50	71	92½	1	12½	25
(*1247½)	1250	10½	39	61½	10½	30	46
Zeneca	1150	17	70	94½	15	45	67½
(*1156)	1200	1½	46½	71	47½	72	94½
	Series	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**
Grnd Met	420	17	24½	29½	16	22½	25½
(*421)	460	4½	11	14	42½	49	51
Ladbroke	160	6	11½	14½	4	7	9½
(*161½)	180	0½	3½	6½	18½	19½	22
Utd Bisc	260	12	22	28½	6½	12	15½
(*268½)	280	4	13	19	18	22½	26½

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
BAA	460	8	23	32	3	15	19
(*464)	500	0	7	14½	36	42	42½
Thames W	500	44½	52	63	0	8	12
(*543½)	550	4½	23	34½	11	27½	33
	Series	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**
BAT Ind	500	37	53	58½	3	11	20
(*530½)	550	7½	24½	31½	24½	33	44½
BTR	300	20½	28	31½	2½	5	9
(*317)	330	3½	11½	14½	16	19½	24
Br Aero	700	43	67	76	9½	23½	32½
(*728)	750	16½	40	52½	33	46	56
Br Telcm	360	28	32½	37	1	5½	7½
(*384)	390	7½	14½	20	10½	19	21
Cadbury	500	26	42	45	10½	17	22½
(*514)	550	5	20½	27½	39½	43½	49
Guinness	500	14½	30½	35½	9	18½	24
(*503)	550	1	10½	15	47	49½	55
GEC	300	30½	35½	41½	0½	3½	5½
(*328)	330	7	16	22½	7½	14½	16½
Hanson	191	9	12½	—	2½	7½	—
(*196½)	211	1	4	—	15	20	—
LASMO	140	14	18½	21	1	3½	5
(*152½)	160	2½	8½	10	9	12	14
Lucas	200	7	15½	19½	6	10½	13
(*204)	220	0½	7½	10	20	23	24½
Pilkngtn	160	15½	21	26	1½	5½	6½
(*193)	200	4	10½	14½	10	15	15½
Prudential	360	13	24½	30	8½	15	22½
(*363)	390	2½	11	16½	28	32	40
Redland	360	16	27½	35	6	12½	21
(*364½)	390	4	13½	20½	26	30	38
R-Royce	160	8½	14½	17	3	6	9
(*167½)	180	1	5½	8	16	18	20½
Tesco	300	16	25	30½	3	7½	13
(*310½)	330	2½	10	15½	20	23½	28
Vodafone	240	14½	22	27½	6½	11	16½
(*246)	260	6	13	18½	19	21½	27
Williams	300	29½	34	38	0½	3	7
(*324)	330	5	15	19½	10	14½	20

FT-SE INDEX (*3452)

	3350	3400	3450	3500	3550	3600
Calls						
Oct	102	53½	25	9	2½	1
Nov	127	92	64	40½	23½	12
Dec	153	121	90½	67	45½	30½
Jan	—	145	—	91½	—	52½
Jun	—	212½	—	162	—	114½
Puts						
Oct	9½	20½	41	75½	123	173
Nov	32	47	70	98	133	174½
Dec	48	66	96	114½	145	182
Jan	—	78	—	126	—	191½
Jun	—	132	—	179½	—	231

	Series	Calls Dec	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Puts Dec	Puts Mar	Puts Jun
Abby Nat	500	56	67	69½	3½	12½	16½
(*546)	550	22	35	38	19	33	38
Amstrad	260	23½	31	37½	6	11	13
(*276)	280	12	20	27½	14½	20	22
Barclays	700	45	61½	69½	11½	27½	35
(*724½)	750	18	34½	44	35½	52½	58½
Blue Circ	280	23½	32	35	5	10	15½
(*294½)	300	12	21	24	13½	18½	25½
Br Gas	240	11½	16½	19	6½	8½	14
(*247½)	260	4½	8½	11	20½	21½	26
Dixons	360	20	30	37½	11½	19½	21½
(*364½)	390	9	18	23½	29	36	38
Forte	220	18½	24½	27	2½	5½	9½
(*233)	240	7	13	16	10½	14	18
Tarmac	80	11	14½	15½	2	3½	5½
(*88)	90	5	9	10½	6	9	10
Hillsdwn	160	14	18	19½	2	4½	8½
(*172)	180	3½	8	9	12½	14	19½
Lonrho	160	11	14½	18	5	9½	10
(*163½)	180	3½	6	9½	17½	20½	22
Sears	100	7	9½	11	3	4	5½
(*104½)	110	2½	4½	6	8½	9	11
Thrn Emi	1400	66½	98	133	28½	42	52
(*1427)	1450	41	71½	104½	53½	66	72
Tomkins	240	11½	17½	22½	8	12½	14½
(*241½)	260	4	9	13½	20½	24½	26
TSB	330	31	36½	41	6½	11	14½
(*350)	360	12	18	25	18	25	29
	Series	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**
Glaxo Well	750	13	40½	52½	5	21½	34
(*756½)	800	0	17½	29½	43½	50	61½
HSBC	850	41½	75	95½	2½	23	42½
(*888)	900	9½	46½	67	20½	43	65½
Reuter	500	39½	56½	66½	0	7	15½
(*537)	550	5	25	37	15½	26½	36
	Series	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**
Royal Ins	330	29	40½	47½	0	7	15
(*358½)	360	5	22	29½	6½	18	28½
	Series	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Fisons	260	4½	9½	7	1½	2½	3
(*263)	280	0	1	1	18½	19	20
	Series	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**May**
Eastern Gp	950	25½	29	27½	0½	1	1½
(*972½)	1000	1	0½	0½	27½	31½	32½
	Series	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Natl Pwr	460	24	37½	43½	11	15½	22
(*472)	500	7½	16	23½	34	37	43½
Scot Pwr	330	28½	33½	39½	5½	9½	10½
(*350)	360	10½	16½	22½	16½	23	24

October 10, 1995 Tot: 45156 Call: 22332 Put: 22824 FT-SE Call: 8164 Put: 11217

*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 66751	Dec 95	3520.0	3527.0	3448.0	3457.0	21590
	Mar 96	3486.0	3486.0	3486.0	3490.0	50
FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 3538	Dec 95	3950.0	3950.0	3950.0	3930.0	25
	Mar 96					0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 344102	Dec 95	93.29	93.35	93.28	93.35	19705
	Mar 96	93.35	93.39	93.31	93.39	23062
	Jun 96	93.29	93.31	93.23	93.30	18145
Three Mth Eurodollar Previous open interest: 110	Dec 95				94.26	0
	Mar 96				94.42	0
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 757035	Dec 95	96.09	96.09	96.05	96.06	15503
	Mar 96	96.21	96.21	96.12	96.16	31834
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 95697	Dec 95	105-10	105-15	104-30	105-06	47289
	Mar 96				104-21	0
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 95	121.05	121.16	120.96	121.16	352
	Mar 96	120.11	120.11	120.11	120.11	30
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 195056	Dec 95	95.61	95.78	95.42	95.61	109844
	Mar 96	95.15	95.15	95.00	95.02	217
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 17773	Dec 95	94.17	94.19	94.13	94.19	1536
	Mar 96	94.38	94.41	94.35	94.41	512
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 46829	Dec 95	97.67	97.69	97.66	97.69	3990
	Mar 96	97.77	97.78	97.73	97.77	5166
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 43869	Dec 95	101.20	101.82	101.20	101.52	31183
	Mar 96				101.17	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¹¹/₁₆ Low 6¼ Week fixed: 6⅝

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅜ : 3 mth 6¹¹/₃₂ . Sell: 2 mth 6⅜ : 3 mth: 6¹¹/₃₂ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6¹¹/₃₂-6⁹/₃₂	6¹¹/₃₂-6⁹/₃₂	6⅜-6⁵/₁₆	6⅜-6⁵/₁₆	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅝-6¹¹/₁₆	6²¹/₃₂-6⁷/₃₂	6⅜-6¹¹/₁₆	6²¹/₃₂-6¹⁹/₃₂	6¹¹/₁₆-6⅝
Interbank:	6⅝-6¹¹/₁₆	6⅝-6¹¹/₃₂	6⅝-6¹¹/₁₆	6²¹/₃₂-6¹⁹/₃₂	6¹¹/₁₆-6⅝

Overnight: open 6⅝, close 6¼ .

Local Authority Deps:	6⅝	n/a	6¹¹/₁₆	6¹¹/₁₆	6⅝
Sterling CDs:	6²¹/₃₂-6⅝	6²¹/₃₂-6¹¹/₃₂	6¹¹/₃₂-6²¹/₃₂	6⅝-6¹¹/₁₆	6⅝-6¹¹/₁₆
Dollar CDs:	5.78	n/a	5.84	5.81	5.78
Building Society CDs:	6²¹/₃₂-6⅝	6⅝-6¹¹/₃₂	6²¹/₃₂-6¹⁹/₃₂	6⅝-6²¹/₃₂	6²¹/₃₂-6¹⁹/₃₂

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5¹¹/₁₆-5⁹/₁₆	5¾-5⅝	5⅞-5¾	5⅞-5¾	5½-4½
Deutschemark:	4⅛-3⅞	4⅛-3¹⁵/₁₆	4¹/₁₆-3¹⁵/₁₆	4¹/₁₆-3¹⁵/₁₆	4⅛-3⅞
French Franc:	7⅞-7⅝	7⅞-7⅝	7⅞-7⅝	7⅞-7⅝	n/a
Swiss Franc:	2⅛-2⅞	2⅛-2⅜	2⅛-2⅜	2⅛-2⅜	2⅛-1⅞
Yen:	⁷/₁₆-⅜	⁷/₁₆-⅜	⁷/₁₆-⅜	⁷/₁₆-⅜	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $384.90-385.30 Close: $385.20-385.70 High: $385.35-385.85 Low: $384.30-384.80 AM: $384.70 PM: $385.10

Krugerrand: $387.00-389.00 (£244.00-246.00)

Platinum: $417.50 (£264.05) **Silver:** $5.46 (£3.455) **Palladium:** $136.50 (£87.60)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Oct 10	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5036-2.5183	2.5064-2.5097	⅜-¼pr	1⅛-1⅛pr
Brussels	46.00-46.29	46.05-46.15	12-9pr	31-26pr
Copenhagen	8.6820-8.7460	8.6860-8.7080	1-⅜pr	2⅛-1⅛pr
Dublin	0.9780-0.9820	0.9780-0.9805	9-6pr	20-15pr
Frankfurt	2.2352-2.2460	2.2370-2.2401	⅜-¼pr	1⅛-1⅛pr
Lisbon	234.94-236.39	235.07-235.70	34-62ds	129-174ds
Madrid	193.83-194.92	193.83-194.13	44-52ds	139-155ds
Milan	2539.10-2546.60	2539.10-2543.20	70-90ds	24-26ds
Montreal	2.1079-2.1105	2.1079-2.1109	0.13-0.05pr	0.21-0.10pr
New York	1.5778-1.5830	1.5778-1.5788	0.14-0.12pr	0.35-0.32pr
Oslo	9.8710-9.9260	9.8780-9.8930	1⅛-1pr	3⅛-2⅝pr
Paris	7.8240-7.8810	7.8240-7.8380	⅛-1ds	⅛-1⅛ds
Stockholm	10.965-11.032	10.965-10.989	1⅛-2⅛ds	5⅛-6⅛ds
Tokyo	158.55-159.62	158.71-158.97	1-⅜pr	2⅝-2⅛pr
Vienna	15.720-15.810	15.748-15.775	4-2⅛pr	11-8pr
Zurich	1.8093-1.8213	1.8097-1.8125	⅜-⅛pr	1⅛-1⅛pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3218-1.3227
Austria	9.95-9.96
Belgium (Com)	29.10-29.14
Canada	1.3392-1.3398
Denmark	5.4965-5.4995
France	4.9564-4.9596
Germany	1.4151-1.4156
Hong Kong	7.7305-7.7315
Ireland	1.6130-1.6150
Italy	1608.60-1610.10
Japan	100.35-100.45
Malaysia	2.5360-2.5370
Netherlands	1.5852-1.5857
Norway	6.2455-6.2485
Portugal	148.81-148.91
Singapore	1.4265-1.4275
Spain	122.90-122.94
Sweden	6.9490-6.9590
Switzerland	1.1440-1.1450

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5784-1.5810
Australia dollar	2.0878-2.0905
Bahrain dinar	0.5910-0.6030
Brazil real*	1.5128-1.5171
China yuan	12.00 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.7060-0.7160
Finland markka	6.7325-6.8485
Greece drachma	365.75-372.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.2049-12.2142
India rupee	53.13-54.09
Indonesia rupiah	3552.0-3620.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4700-0.4800
Malaysia ringgit	4.0038-4.0080
New Zealand dollar	2.3910-2.3944
Pakistan rupee	49.75 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.7025-5.8265
Singapore dollar	2.2522-2.2552
S Africa rand (com)	5.7305-5.8350
U A E dirham	5.7525-5.8765

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	998	Land Secs	536
ASDA Gp	16,000	Legal & Gn	2,000
Abbey Ntl	4,700	Lloyds Bk	7,600
Allied Dom	2,200	Marks Spr	8,100
Argyll Gp.	3,500	Mid Elec	742
Arjo Wggns	2,000	NatWst Bk	3,700
AB Foods	418	Nat Power	1,600
BAA	7,600	NW Water	1,300
BAT Inds	8,600	P & O	2,900
BOC	3,300	Pearson	1,500
BP	6,700	PowerGen	1,400
BSkyB	4,100	Prudential	2,500
BTR	11,000	REXAM	1,800
BT	11,000	RMC	1,100
Bk of Scot	5,300	RTZ	1,500
Barclays	5,400	Rank Org	2,000
Bass	1,300	Reckitt Col	1,400
Blue Circle	3,000	Redland	908
Boots	2,300	Reed Intl	689
BAe	2,400	Rentokil	1,500
BA	3,500	Reuters	3,700
Brit Gas	12,000	Rolls Royce	6,000
Brit Steel	6,800	Royal Ins	4,700
Burmah Cstl	1,200	Ryl Bk Scot	6,300
Cable Wire	11,000	Sainsbury	1,700
Cadbury	5,000	Schroders	580
Carlton Cms	1,100	Scot & New	1,200
Cm Union	2,700	Scot Power	2,800
Cookson	3,800	Sears	10,000
Courtaulds	2,300	Svrn Trent	1,300
De La Rue	617	Shell Trans	3,700
Enterpr Oil	3,100	Siebe	1,300
Fisons	38,000	SmKl Bch	6,400
Forte	4,700	Smith Nph	2,500
GKN	717	Sthern Elec	1,100
GRE	2,800	Std Chartd	7,000
GUS	1,600	Sun Allnce	928
Gen Acc	1,300	TI Gp	3,100
Gen Elec	7,500	TSB	13,000
Glaxo Well	4,400	Tate & Lyle	948
Granada	1,800	Tesco	7,100
Grand Met	4,400	Thames W	974
Guinness	2,900	Thrn EMI	1,800
HSBC	1,300	Tomkins	2,900
Hanson	5,300	Unilever	1,000
ICI	3,800	Vodafone	22,000
Inchcape	817	Whitbread	656
Kingfisher	2,100	Wllms Hld	690
LASMO	4,500	Wolseley	1,700
Ladbroke	5,300	Zeneca	975

	Oct 10 midday	Oct 9 close
AMP Inc	37¾	37¾
AMR Corp	68½	69⅞
AT & T	62⅞	63⅞
Abbott Labs	42⅞	43⅛
Advanced Micro	25⅝	26½
Aetna Life	71¼	71⅛
Ahmanson (HF)	25½	26
Air Prod & Chem	50¾	50½
Albertson's	33⅛	32⅞
Alcan Alumnm	30⅜	30½
Alco Standard	79⅝	80
Allied Signal	44⅛	43⅞
Alum Co of Am	53⅝	52⅞
Amax Gold Inc	5⅞	6⅛
Amerada Hess	46⅛	45⅞
Amer Brands	42⅝	42⅛
Amer El Power	39⅝	37⅞
Amer Express	42½	43
Amer Genl Corp	36⅛	36⅛
Amer Home Pr	88⅝	88⅞
Amer Intl	85	85⅞
Amer Stores	29⅝	29⅛
Ameritech	51⅝	51⅝
Amoco	64⅛	64⅝
Anheuser-Busch	62⅝	62⅞
Apple Computer	34⅛	34⅛
Archer Daniels	15	15⅛
Armco	6⅛	6⅞
Armstrng Wrld	53⅞	54⅛
Asarco	31	31
Ashland Oil	31⅛	31⅝
Atl Richfield	105⅝	106
Auto Data Pro	69	69⅞
Avery Dennison	41	41⅛
Avon Products	72⅛	72⅛
Baker Hughes	20⅛	20⅞
Baltim Gas & El	25⅞	26
Banc One	37⅝	37⅞
BankAmerica	61⅝	62⅛
Bank of NY	46⅛	47⅛
Bankers Tr NY	67½	68⅞
Barnett Banks	55⅞	56⅛
Bausch & Lomb	38⅛	39
Baxter Intl	40⅞	40⅞
Bectn Dicksn	63	63⅞
Bell Atlantic	59⅝	60⅛
Bell Industries	19⅛	20⅛
BellSouth	73⅛	74⅞
Black & Decker	33⅞	33⅞
Block (H&R)	39	39⅛
Boeing	67⅞	64
Boise Cascade	37⅛	37⅝
Bristol Myrs Sq	75⅝	75⅞
Browning Ferris	28⅝	29
Brunswick	20⅛	19⅞
Burlington Nthn	71⅛	71⅛
CBS	79⅞	80
CNA Financial	112½	111⅞
CPC Intl	68⅞	68⅞
CSX	78½	79⅛
Campbell Soup	52⅞	51⅞
Can Pacific	16	16⅛
Cptl Cities ABC	116	116⅛
Carolina Pwr	33⅝	33
Caterpillar	52	52⅞
Central & SW	25⅞	25⅞
Champion Intl	50⅞	50⅞
Chase Manhat	64	64⅞
Chemical Bk	63⅛	62⅞
Chevron Corp	49⅝	49⅞
Chrysler	51⅛	51½
Chubb Corp	94⅛	94⅛
Cigna Corp	101⅛	102⅛
Citicorp	71⅛	72⅝
Clorox	70⅛	70⅛
Coastal Corp	33⅞	33
Coca Cola	70⅞	71⅞
Colgate-Palmolive	67⅛	68
Columbia Gas	38	38⅞
Compaq Comp	44⅛	45⅞
Comp Ass Intl	38⅛	38⅛
Conagra	40	39⅛
Conrail	66⅛	68⅛
Cons Edison	30⅛	30⅞
Cons Nat Gas	40⅛	40⅛
Cooper Inds	33⅛	34⅛
Corestates	36⅛	38⅛
Corning Inc	26½	28⅛
Crown Cork	35⅞	35⅞
Dana Corp	27⅛	27⅛
Dayton Hudson	72⅛	72⅛
Deere	81⅛	82⅛
Delta Air Lines	66⅞	67⅛
Deluxe Corp	32⅛	32⅛
Detroit Edison	32⅞	33⅞
Digital Equip	42⅞	43⅞
Dillard Dept St	31⅛	32
Disney (Walt)	56	56⅛
Dominion Res	37⅞	38⅞
Donnelley (RR)	39	39⅛
Dover Corp	36½	37⅞
Dow Chemical	73⅛	73⅞
Dow Jones	36⅛	37⅞
Dresser	22⅞	23⅞
Duke Power	44⅛	43⅞
Dun & Bradstreet	58⅞	58⅞
Du Pont	65⅞	65⅞
Eastman Kodak	56⅞	57⅛
Eaton Corp	51½	51⅛
Emerson Elec	69½	69½
Engelhard Corp	24⅛	24⅛
Enron Corp	33½	33⅛
Entergy	27	26⅞
Ethyl Corp	11	11
Exxon	73⅞	73⅞
FMC Corp	72⅞	73⅛
FPL Group	41⅛	40⅞
Federal Express	80⅛	80
Fed Nat Mtge	105⅞	105⅞
First Chicago	70⅛	70⅞
First Interstate	107⅞	108
First Union Rlty	7⅛	7⅛
Fleet Finl Grp	38⅛	38⅛
Fluor Corp	56⅞	56⅛
Ford Motor	29⅞	29⅞
GTE Corp	39⅞	39⅞
Gannett	54⅛	54⅛
Gap Inc Del	38	38⅞
Gen Dynamics	51⅛	52
Gen Electric	62⅞	62⅞
Gen Mills	56⅞	55⅞
Gen Motors	44⅛	44⅛
Gen Reinsurance	148⅞	149⅞
Gen Signal	28⅞	29⅛
Genuine Parts	39⅞	39⅛
Georgia Pac	82⅛	82⅞
Gillette	48⅞	49⅛
Glaxo Wellc ADR	23⅞	24⅛
Goodrich (BF)	61	62
Goodyear Tire	38	38⅞
Grace (WR)	65⅞	64⅛
Grt Atl Pac Tea	22⅞	23⅛
Great Westn Fin	23⅞	24⅛
Halliburton	41⅛	41⅛
Harcourt General	41⅛	41⅛
Heinz (HJ)	46⅛	47
Hercules	54⅞	55
Hershey Foods	66⅞	67⅛
Hewlett Packard	77⅞	78⅛
Hilton Hotels	64⅞	65
Home Depot	39⅛	39⅛
Homestake Mng	17⅛	17⅛
Honeywell	40⅞	41
Household Intl	64	64⅞
Houston Inds	46⅛	45⅞
Humana	19⅛	19⅛
ITT Corp	118⅞	119⅞
Illinois Tool	55⅞	55⅞
Illinova	27⅛	27⅞
INCO	31⅛	31⅛
Ingersoll Rand	35⅛	36
Inland Steel	21⅞	22
Intel Corp	59⅞	60⅛
IBM	90⅞	92⅞
Intl Flav & Fr	46⅞	47⅛
Intl Paper	38	37⅞
James River Va	31	31⅛
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	76⅞	76⅛
Kellogg	74⅛	74⅛
Kerr-McGee	56⅞	56
Kimberly-Clark	67⅛	67⅛
Kmart	12⅛	12⅛
Knight-Ridder	57⅛	57⅛
Lilly (Eli)	91⅛	92
Limited Inc	20	20⅛
Lincoln Nat	46⅛	46⅛
Litton	40⅞	40⅞
Liz Claiborne	26	26⅛
Lockheed Martin	66⅛	66
Louisiana Pac	22⅛	22⅛
MCI Comm	24⅞	25
Marriott Intl	37⅞	37⅛
Marsh & McLnn	85	85⅞
Masco Corp	27	27⅛
May Dept St	43⅛	43⅛
Maytag Corp	17⅛	17⅛
McDonalds	39	39
McDonnell D	77⅛	78⅛
McGraw Hill	80⅛	80⅛
Mead Corp	54⅛	54⅛
Medtronic	53⅞	54⅛
Mellon Bk	47⅛	47⅞
Melville Corp	34⅛	34⅛
Merck Inc	59⅞	58⅞
Merrill Lynch	59⅞	61⅛
Microsoft	82⅞	83⅛
Minnesota Mine	56	56⅞
Mobil Corp	99⅞	99⅞
Monsanto	97⅞	98⅛
Morgan (JP)	77⅛	77⅛
Motorola Inc	63⅞	69
Natl Semi	24⅛	24⅛
Natl Service Ind	29⅞	29⅞
Navistar Int	11⅛	11⅛
NBD Bancorp	39⅛	39⅛
NY Times A	28⅞	28⅞
Newmont Mng	40⅞	40⅞
Niag Mohawk	11	10⅞
Nike B	110⅞	111
NL Industries	16	16⅛
Noram Energy	8	7⅞
Nordstrom	40⅞	40⅞
Norfolk Sthrn	72⅞	73⅛
Nthn State Pwr	46⅞	46⅛
Norwest Corp	31⅛	32⅛
Nynex Corp	47⅛	47⅛
Occidental Pet	21⅞	21
Ohio Edison	23	22⅞
Oracle	36⅛	36⅞
Oryx Energy Co	11⅛	12
Owens Corning	43⅞	44⅛
PPG Industries	44⅞	44⅞
PNC Bank	28⅞	28⅞
PP&L Res	23⅛	23⅛
Paccar Inc	45⅛	46⅛
Pacificorp	19⅛	19⅛
Pac Enterprises	25⅞	25⅞
Pac Gas & Elect	30⅛	30
Pac Telesis	30⅛	30⅛
Pall Corp	22⅞	22⅞
Panhandle East	27⅛	27⅛
Peco Energy	29	28⅞
Penney (JC)	47⅛	46⅛
Pennzoil	44⅛	44⅛
Pepsico	51⅛	51⅛
Pfizer	55⅞	56⅛
Phelps Dodge	63	61⅞
Philip Morris	84⅞	84⅞
Phillips Pet	31⅞	31⅛
Pitney Bowes	41⅞	42⅛
Polaroid	39⅛	39⅛
PriceCostco	16⅞	17⅛
Procter & Gmbl	81⅛	81⅛
Providian	41	41⅛
Pub Serv E & G	29⅞	29⅞
Quaker Oats	31⅛	32
Ralston Purina	59	58⅞
Raychem Corp	43⅞	44⅛
Raytheon	84⅞	85
Reebok Intl	33⅛	33⅛
Reynolds Metals	52⅞	52⅞
Roadway Srvcs	44⅞	45
Rockwell Intl	44⅞	45⅛
Rohm & Haas	57⅛	58⅛
Royal Dutch	124⅞	124⅞
Rubbermaid	27⅛	27
SBC Comms	55⅞	55⅞
Safeco Corp	64⅞	65
St Paul's Cos	56⅞	57⅛
Salomon Inc	37⅞	38⅛
Sara Lee Corp	29⅞	29⅞
Scecorp	17⅛	17⅛
Schering Plough	51⅞	52⅞
Schlumberger	65⅞	66⅛
Scott Paper	49	48⅛
Seagram	36⅛	36⅛
Sears Roebuck	35⅞	35⅞
Shell Trans	71⅞	72⅞
Sherwin Wllms	35⅛	35⅛
Skyline Corp	17⅛	18
Snap-On-Tools	38	38⅛
Southern Co	24	23⅞
Sprint Corp	34⅛	34⅛
Stanley Works	45⅞	45⅞
Sun Company	25⅞	25⅞
Sun Microsys	55⅞	56
Suntrust	66⅛	66⅛
Supervalu	29⅞	29⅞
Sysco Corp	26⅞	27⅛
TRW Inc	70⅞	72
TCC Inds	7⅛	7⅛
Tandem Comp	11⅛	11⅛
Tandy Corp	58	58⅞
Teledyne	24⅞	25
Temple Inland	48⅞	48⅞
Tenneco	44⅞	44⅛
Texaco	65⅞	66
Texas Instr	69⅞	70⅛
Texas Utilities	34⅛	34⅛
Textron	69⅞	68⅞
Time Warner	38⅛	39⅛
Times-Mirror A	28⅞	28⅞
Timken	40⅞	40⅞
Torchmark	43⅛	43⅛
Toys R Us	26⅛	26⅛
Transamerica	69⅞	70⅛
Travelers	51⅞	52
Tribune	62⅞	63
Tyco Labs	59⅞	60⅛
UST Inc	29⅞	30
UAL	169	177⅛
US Inds	15⅞	15⅞
USX Marathon	18⅞	19
Unicom	32⅛	31⅛
Unilever NV	130	130⅛
Union Camp	53⅞	54⅛
Union Carbide	37⅞	38
Union Pacific	62⅞	63⅛
Unisys Corp	7⅛	7⅛
USAir Group	12⅛	12⅛
USF&G Corp	18⅛	18⅛
US Life	28⅞	29⅛
US West	46	46⅛
United Tech	89⅞	89⅞
Unocal Corp	28⅞	28⅞
Upjohn	44⅛	44⅛
VF Corp	51⅛	51⅛
WMX Tech	28⅞	28⅛
Wal-Mart Stores	23⅞	24⅛
Warner-Lambert	89⅞	90⅛
Wells Fargo	201⅛	200⅞
Westinghouse El	14⅞	14⅞
Weyerhaeuser	45⅛	44⅞
Whirlpool	55	55⅞
Whitman	20⅞	20⅞
Winn Dixie	60⅛	60⅞
Woolworth	15⅞	15⅞
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	49⅞	50⅛
Xerox	128	128⅞
Yellow Corp	13⅛	13⅛

THE TIMES

CITY DIARY

Breaking the ice

THE long-serving Maxwell trial jury was yesterday reminded of the modern era of "New Man". Mr Justice Phillips, the trial judge, instructed the 12 to elect a leader. "By the end of this trial you must choose a foreman," said the judge. "In the days of political correctness, I should say a foreperson." He said he had waited for the jurors to get to know each other. It was day 78 of the trial.

No rest

IS THERE no rest for Sir Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds Bank? On Monday, Sir Brian was obliged to dash back to London from Washington to lead the negotiating team in the bid for TSB. All day there were meetings, then a hastily convened evening board meeting at which he outlined Lloyds case, which was heard, I'm told, without a single critical or dissenting voice. Then it was an informal in-house dinner prepared by Kevin, the chef. Today, it is yet more presentations as the formal terms are revealed. How he must be missing Washington.

Clubbable

CLUB 24, the Next subsidiary whose business is customer service management, unwittingly threw a rave party recently. Management decided it was time to change the company's name. So 1,000 staff were bidden to Leeds Town Hall. However, banners proclaiming a Club 24 function excited hordes of local youths to believe that the holiday company Club 18-30 was throwing a bash. It must have been some party. Not even the gate-crashers headed for the exit when the announcement finally came that Club 24 would now be known as Ventura.

"That's what we Conservatives need — loyalty cards"

Fitting the bill

SMOKE has appeared from the boardroom chimney of British Vita. The winner of its competition (*City Diary*, October 2) to name the family of storks nesting on top of its foam factory in Brez Dolney, Poland, is David Finch, of Walton-on-Thames, for his suggestion "Storkski and Hatch". A bottle of Polish vodka is on its way. The first female stork will be called Marge.

Dire dates

DON'T say *City Diary* never warned you, but on October 5 the column quoted from the *Schwartz Stock Market Handbook* that October 9 is the second worst day of the year, and that October 10 is the eighth worst day. On Monday, the market fell 16.2 points. Yesterday, the market was off 50.2 points. The next bad day, according to Schwartz, is October 26. Stand by.

Barings

CONTRARY to our article yesterday about the source of the Lloyds/TSB merger leak, we now accept that the leaked information did not come from Barings. We apologise to Barings for any embarrassment caused by the article.

COLIN CAMPBELL

Window of opportunity in the house of despair

Robert Miller on why it is time for a politically inspired solution to the housing malaise

MORE bad news for the housing market today from the Halifax Building Society puts Kenneth Clarke under further pressure to come up with something concrete to help the housing market in his keynote speech to the Conservative Party conference tomorrow morning.

That the Chancellor of the Exchequer will mention the housing market in his speech seems almost certain. His advisers have informed him that today's Halifax quarterly house price index spreads the gloom around the whole country with prices weaker in all regions of the United Kingdom, with the exception of Northern Ireland, than they were a year ago.

In London alone, that means that an awesome £31 billion has been wiped off the value of homes since the boom years of the late 1980s.

Mr Clarke has been told by many of his backbench MPs that the complaints they are receiving from an increasing number of constituents at their surgeries relate to the housing market. If he has any remaining doubts, he need only look at this year's conference manual which lists 200 motions put forward by constituencies for debate on the economy of which at least a quarter refer to the housing market.

There is nothing in the way of pre-Budget protocol which absolutely forbids a Chancellor from making a pronouncement on policy at the conference. He could easily, for example, signal to delegates that he intends to abolish stamp duty, as the Halifax and indeed the Council of Mortgage Lenders have called for, and then confirm the measure in his Budget, but no one is really expecting him to.

By signalling a move now, he could show that the Government acknowledges that the housing market is in danger of being left behind in the economic recovery.

Some analysts believe that a strong statement of continuing Government commitment to the housing market without any specific measures may suffice. The general statistics coming from the housing market, however, including the lenders' own figures on mortgage advances, indicate that some form of practical help is needed.

The increase in leading house price indices in September — the Halifax reported a modest 0.3 per cent increase while the Nationwide announced a 0.6 per cent rise — are still well down on a year ago.

And, these increases, against the general monthly trend earlier in the summer, may be explained by those who were intent on moving doing so before the cuts in income support came into effect at the beginning of this month. Under the recently introduced DSS rules, new borrowers who subsequently lose their jobs or become too ill to keep up with their monthly mortgage repayments will have to wait nine months to receive any state assistance.

Those involved in the mortgage market insist that the recent Budget submission from the Council of Mortgage Lenders (CML) is not simply a case of special pleading. They argue that other vital parts of the economy are affected, such as housebuilders and retailers. The building industry points out that, while housing starts may have tumbled 17 per cent so far this year, the level of transactions, the lifeblood of the market, is down 30 per cent. Other sectors to suffer include builders' merchants and suppliers, paint and DIY stores and electrical and white goods manufacturers. Recent estimates for the housing market as a whole show that, at about 1.2 million, transactions are a full half a million down on the average prevailing between 1982 and 1986.

This in turn is even further below the market peak of 2.15 million transactions recorded in 1988. The CML has recommended that as well as housing tax and transaction duty the Chancellor should introduce additional help for first-time buyers.

The trade body, which represents 98 per cent of all lenders, laid the blame for the ailing housing market firmly at the Government's door, citing uncertainty over jobs, interest rates and Government policies. The result, says the CML, is that, after a modest recovery in house prices and transactions between 1992 and 1994, the full force of recession has hit the market again this year.

The CML says its members have done their bit by cutting interest rates without an official move by the Bank of England. Margins too, have been cut. To drive home his point, Adrian Coles, the director-general of the CML, said in his submission: "A major problem with the housing market is too low a level of transactions.

"One obvious way to deal with this is to abolish the tax on transactions. Well over half of all house purchasers in the areas worst affected by negative equity — London and southeast England — have to pay Stamp Duty." Mr Coles concluded: "The housing market is deep in recession and has not shared in the general economic recovery that has occurred over the last two or three years." Without Government help, either tomorrow or in the Budget, the CML said: "There is a significant risk that activity in the housing market will decline further."

There are, however, powerful voices in City circles who argue that abolishing stamp duty or, worse still, announcing short-term measures, which when they are ended create even more long-term headaches for the market, are not the answer to the housing malaise.

Some have argued for the complete abolition of Miras on the grounds that it makes housing more expensive. Steven Bell, chief economist at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, favours a one-off lump sum worth between £2,500 and £3,000 being given to each adult in the UK to be used when they move. To cut down on the opportunities for fraudsters to misuse the system, the lump sum would be linked to National Insurance numbers.

Mr Bell says the attraction is that it helps the one million-plus people who are caught in negative equity — their loan is larger than the value of the property — and the 2.5 million trapped by neutral equity — the property is worth the same as their mortgage — who cannot afford to raise the increasingly high initial deposits demanded by lenders.

The lump sum would also provide immediate cash to meet a fair proportion of the fees and other costs related to moving home.

Based on the current level of 1.2 million transactions, the cost of the lump sum housing grant to the Treasury would have been £3.6 billion against the £3 billion that Miras costs at present.

Whether Miras is abolished now or later almost becomes a secondary issue, says Mr Bell. He believes that Miras could be phased out at the time people lay claim to their lump sum.

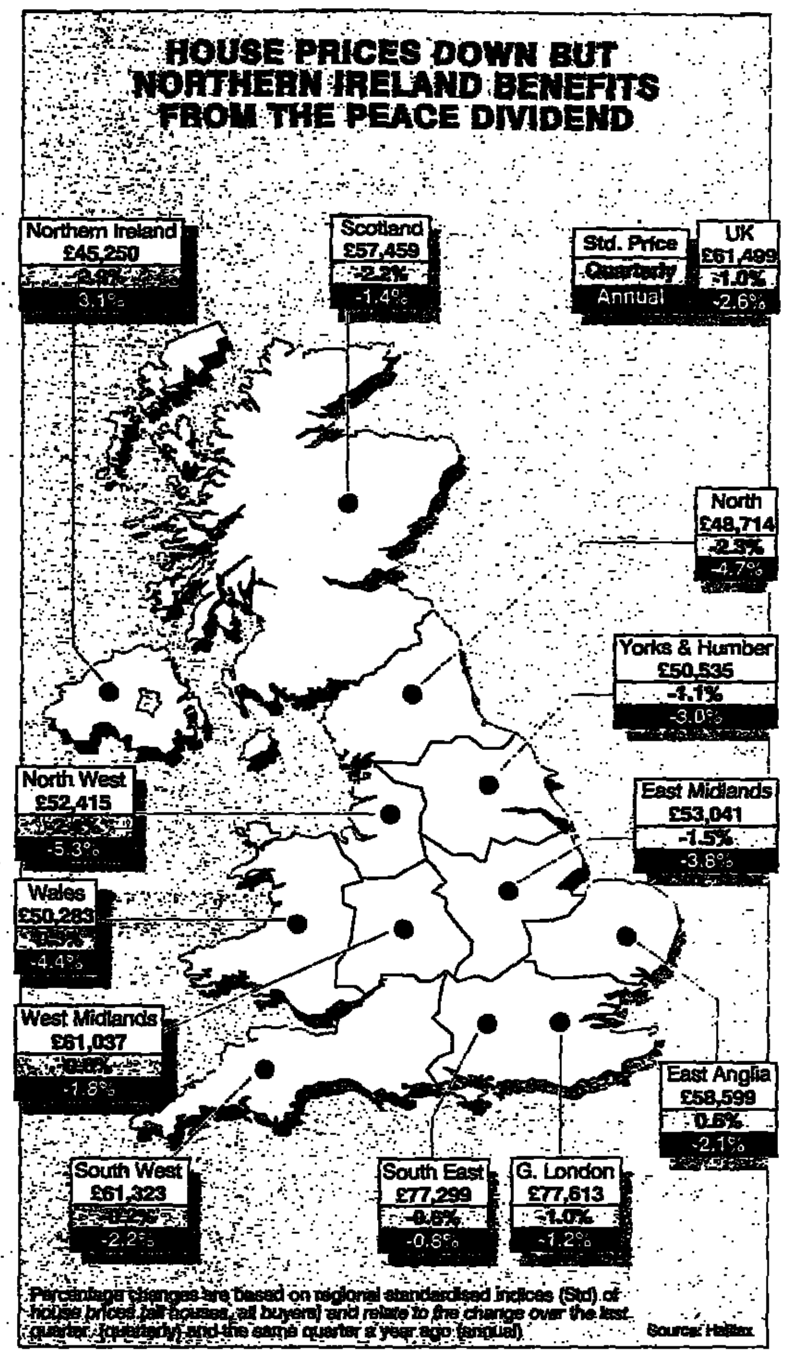
According to Bell, the housing grant could be paid for by £5 billion available to the Chancellor through raising special taxes. For example, he says there is perhaps up to £2 billion to be raised through taxing windfall corporate profits with the burden falling mainly on the privatised utility companies over the longer term. There is between £1.5 and £2 billion to be gleaned from the Treasury's Contingency Fund.

The Chancellor has for some time now been the target of various helpful suggestions from any number of quarters on how he may best kick-start the housing market, or in some people's view, save it from sinking back to the depths of recession. Even the Prime Minister and some of his think-tank advisers have floated, unofficially of course, different solutions.

The view of Kenneth Clarke and his officials, however, is that the Treasury can help by maintaining a low inflation environment from which low mortgage rates will follow. Further, they maintain that economic growth will bring rising prosperity and real incomes and the increased consumer confidence necessary to put the housing market on an even keel.

Nevertheless, the Chancellor's pragmatic view of the housing market may not prevail in the end. Repossessions have started to rise again for the first time in four years and all regions in the UK are feeling the pinch of falling house prices to a greater or lesser extent. If the situation shows no sign of picking up, and few believe it will this side of Christmas, a politically inspired solution may have to be forthcoming, no matter how it is dressed up.

HOUSE PRICES DOWN BUT NORTHERN IRELAND BENEFITS FROM THE PEACE DIVIDEND



Percentage changes are based on regional standardised indices (Std) of house prices (all houses, all buyers) and relate to the change over the last quarter (quarterly) and the same quarter a year ago (annual). Source: Halifax

UK HOUSE PRICES

	Pre 1919	1919-45	1946-60	Post 1960 not new	New	All
Terraced houses	£47,236	£47,687	£43,495	£47,520	£58,364	£47,754
Semi-detached houses	£75,670	£59,236	£52,707	£51,747	£55,765	£57,807
Detached houses	£125,243	£118,098	£121,594	£91,711	£98,297	£101,592
Bungalow	£70,128	£72,298	£69,921	£62,545	£86,836	£66,083
Flats & maisonettes	£60,871	£46,781	£42,526	£42,714	£57,235	£51,667
All	£59,788	£61,697	£59,206	£60,501	£78,355	£62,332

Prices shown are the arithmetic average prices of houses on which an offer of mortgage has been granted. These prices are not standardised and therefore can be affected by changes in the sample from quarter to quarter.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Tax priorities

From Mr John Venn

Sir, Graham Searjeant's plea for taxes to be shifted from business costs to profits is very much to be welcomed (Business News, September 25).

Reform of the business rates system, however, needs to go much further than relieving those who run their business from home. We do not live above our shop, which is leased and attracts an unrelieved rate in excess of £8,000. This is for the business which earns for its two full-time working partners a total amount which is less than a single parliamentary salary.

As relief is gradually removed and we march towards a tax bill which we know will cripple us, we are unable to renegotiate the rent, because of upward only rent reviews, and both the property and the business are blighted by the very existence of the high potential rates bill, so we cannot "get on our bikes" without losing everything.

We should be the backbone of Conservative support, but do the Tories really imagine that quintupling the rates is the way to win votes and influence people?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN VENN,
The Bazaar,
1 Eastgate Square,
Chichester,
West Sussex.

Letters to the Business section can be faxed on 0171-782 5112.

'Windfall orphan funds' should be given to charity

From Mr Jack Shapiro

Sir, The question posed by your report that the Refuge Insurance have asked the Department of Trade and Industry to allow "windfall orphan funds" to be used by them to fund a big acquisition (September 26) is whether these funds belong to shareholders or policyholders.

The sums involved in this one case run into hundreds of millions and if multiplied by the funds held in many other institutions would run into billions. There is a legal remedy known as "cy pre" and is used when a trust fund is no longer able to fulfil its original obligations. The courts can then redirect the funds to another worthy cause.

The orphan funds should be required by Parliamant to pass to the Official Custodian so that those charities now suffering loss of income from the effects of the National Lottery and a general reduction in legacy income, might be able to carry on their work. This would be a useful outcome rather than allowing this money to lie idle in the hands of the institutions.

Yours faithfully,
JACK SHAPIRO,
100 Brim Hill, N2.

KPMG's incorporation called to account

From Mr Robert Breckman

Sir, The decision by KPMG, chartered accountants, to form themselves into a plc to avoid personal liability in the event of negligence claims being made against the partners, is to be deplored (Business Times, October 4). As a chartered accountant I hold my head up high and if I make an error I do not see why I should hide behind the protection of a limited company. After all, I take out insurance to cover possible professional deficiencies and those affected by it will receive reimbursement. Under the KPMG scheme the helpless victims are denied any compensation. This is all totally wrong. How can we now be respected for our integrity if we run away from our obligations?

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT BRECKMAN,
Breckman & Company,
Chartered accountants,
49 South Molton Street, W1.

Power price poser

From Mr F. Paul Taylor

Sir, Referring to supplies to "large and medium-sized consumers" (Business Letters, September 29) Professor Littlechild writes "their electricity prices have been driven down by about 10-15 per cent in real terms."

Perhaps he should tell this to ICI which is having a large power station built at Runcorn to feed its plants there as a counter to the massive increases in electricity charges since privatisation.

Or could it be that Professor Littlechild is again out of touch with what is happening in the industry?

Yours faithfully,
F. PAUL TAYLOR,
7 Kingsway,
Frodsham, Cheshire.

Plea for M&A facts

From Nicholas A. H.Stacey

Sir, Studying the Central Statistical Office's release on mergers and acquisitions for January to March 1995, I note that no distinction is made in the returns between private limited companies and/or public limited companies being bought.

This is regrettable since by far the greater number of acquired companies are private firms while accounting for a smaller amount of the expenditure warranted by their number. The CSO used to publish merger statistics for private and public companies and I wonder why this has been discontinued? It would help students of the M&A business as well as students of industrial organisation if such additional information were reinstated.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS A. H. STACEY,
Reform Club,
Pall Mall, SW1.

Three's company

From Mr Hamish Robertson

Sir, The description of slam-door coaches (Business Letters, October 5) as spacious and comfortable is not one with which I am familiar. As my aching shoulder constantly reminds me it is not possible to fit three adults on a typical BR bench seat unless you adopt the two back and one forward sitting position. Slam-door coaches are draughty, cramped and slow. Mr Eccles of all people should be well aware that rail travel does not have to be like that, nor should he, in his position attempt to defend such obsolescence.

Yours faithfully,
HAMISH ROBERSTON,
30 Crondall Lane,
Farnham, Surrey.

High life

From Mr Henry Button

Sir, Canary Wharf was described as "Europe's tallest office block" by George Sivell and others (October 3). They had apparently overlooked by Messeturm in Frankfurt, which rises to a height of 841ft 6 inches as compared with Canary Wharf's 800 ft.

I trust that it is not yet a crime to give the height of a building in feet as long as it is not being offered for sale. A height of 243.8 metres lacks the panache of 800 feet.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY BUTTON,
7 Amhurst Court,
Grange Road, Cambridge.

ANTHONY HARRIS

Is this where Alan Greenspan first came in?

Almost eight years ago, Wall Street crashed. As I write, it is still possible that today will be remembered as Black Tuesday, or tomorrow as Black Wednesday: or, more likely, that this was just a rather sharp correction. (It would take a 1,400 fall on the Dow to equal the 1987 shake-out). Whatever happens, investors may be hoping, Alan Greenspan at the Fed will know exactly what to do. Though he was then still a greenhorn as a central banker, he handled the crisis with a speed and skill which ensured that there was no economic fall-out from the markets, and established his authority at one blow. So it will all come out all right.

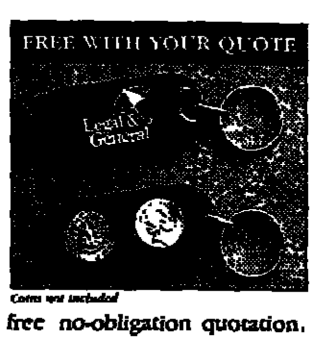
But will it? The problems he faces this time were discussed ten days ago in a lecture by Dr Henry Kaufman, with that uncanny timing which years ago established him as Dr Doom: and as he pointed out, the financial scene has changed fundamentally in the last eight years. The 1987 rescue was a brief time-out from economic management; but by 1995, the Fed is much more in the position of the Bank of Japan, enagaged almost solely in financial management. Japan provides a warning of the danger of slow action: the bubble was allowed to grow much too far, and when it was pricked, the catastrophe ran unchecked for too long. The result is obstinate deflation. But over-hasty action also carries a danger, the "moral hazard" of any bale-out. If a mere correction is checked too quickly, investors may conclude the market can only rise in the long run, and a Wall Street bubble could result. The last was in 1929.

The trouble is that there are no longer clear rules. In 1987 the Fed was still fighting inflation and a falling dollar. Policy was based on money supply targets: and since banks and thrifts dominated the markets for savings and credit, interest rates set by the Fed had a pervasive influence on the economy. A fairly safe world for a central banker. The Fed could take risks with temporary relaxation to keep markets liquid, because it knew economic control could be re-established.

Today, monetary policy lacks its fulcrum. Securitised loans and global markets have opened endless uncontrolled credit channels for the corporate sector, with consequent risks traded in the derivatives market. The short rates controlled by the Fed now have only the loosest connection with credit growth; and still less with bond yields, as the Fed learned last year when a quarter-point rise in Fed funds led to a bond crash. Money aggregates and yield curves, once the stuff of policy, are now hard to read. The Fed is having to feel its way to the skills needed to influence this new market.

There is more than ever at stake, because ordinary citizens are involved without knowing it. They no longer hold their wealth on deposit. Since 1987 they have invested more than $1 trillion in mutual funds, nearly double the increase in their deposit holdings. The result has been a subdued nightmare in the securities industry: what happens if these relative innocents panic in a correction? So how far is it safe to let it run? And since small investors are far more exposed to stock market risk than they were eight years ago, the real economy is also endangered. The 1987 crash impacted mainly on their pension funds, but any sharp fall this time will hit spending money.

The most reassuring fact is that Alan Greenspan is surely the ideal pilot for this exercise in blind flying: an economist with a Wall Street background, and an attentive and fascinated pragmatist, who monitors the impact of everything he does. One can imagine his aims: a correction sharp enough to blow the froth off the market — notably in technology stocks, still in the stratosphere despite their recent fall. But he would wish to check it well this side of hysteria. He may get his chance to try this week; if not, surely before very long. If he gets through this time without a accident, he may really be the Solomon he seemed eight years ago.



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Losses extend across the board

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
565	413	Abbey Nat	548	- 8	4.4	11.0
320	250	Allied Irish	316		4.6	9.2
280	198	Aus New Z	264	- 6	5.3	7.9
3975	2531¼	Bank America	3931¼	- 31¼		
259½	191¼	Bank Scotland	243½	+ 3	2.2	10.7
778	557½	Barclays	725	- 19	3.9	9.5
410	288	Bk of Ireland	410	- 3	3.9	8.2
525	418	Cater Allen	483	- 1	7.5	7.3
4631¼	2450	Citicorp	4575	- 68¾	..	.
340¼	216¼	Close Bros▼	310	- 2	3.5	.
£162¾	£129¼	Commerzbk	£143¾	- 128¾	3.7	
1375	993¾	Dai Ichi Kan	1140¾		0.5	.
3231¼	2775	Deutsche Bk	2998¾	- 131¼	3.5	.
881¼	612½	Espirito Santo	696	+ 3¼	11.8	
1811	1192½	Fuji Bank	1279¾	- 3¾	0.4	..
490	395	Gerrard Nat	448	...	6.3	14.5
253	180	Hambros	208	- 5	4.5	52.4
958	589	HSBC†	891	- 29	4.0	11.6
938¼	578	HSBC Hk†	876	- 26	4.0	11.4
333	228	Irish Perm†	318	.	3.8	7.4
463	353	Joseph (L)	443		5.0	24.7
145	85	King Shaxson	135	- 1	8.3	10.5
737½	530	Lloyds†	720	- 9	4.7	11.0
592	479	Nat Aust Bk	544	- 9	7.0	8.4
565	454	Nat West	601½	- 24½	4.7	9.3
3000	2150	Ottoman Bank	2500		6.4	3.5
67	45	Rea Brothers	48		2.7	18.4
497	373½	Ryl Bk Scot	493	+ 9	3.6	11.9
1478	906¾	Schroders†	1290	- 35	1.4	18.4
1180	823¾	Schroders N/V†	1075	- 45	1.6	15.3
110	81	Singer & Fried†	107	- 1	4.3	11.1
492½	246	Stand Chart†	486	+ 30	2.3	12.2
354	217	TSB	350	- 3	3.4	14.7
121	76	Union	109	- 4	3.4	.
£127	9043¾	Wells Fargo	£127	+ 118¾	2.3	..
269¾	211	Westpac	254½	- 3½	2.3	
295	200	Wintrust	295		4.8	16.9

BREWERIES

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
231	143	Ascot Hldgs	218	- 1		0.4
689	487	Bass	654	- 4	4.1	15.8
394	239	Boddington†	384	- 6	3.0	19.8
192	137	Burtonwd Brw	182		3.6	16.9
186	137	Eldridge P A	174	- 1	3.1	21.1
61	51	Fosters Brewing	58		5.1	
433	335	Fuller Sm A	423		2.5	18.1
527	402	Greenalls Grp	456	- 2	3.2	13.2
658	468	Greene King	635	- 1	2.8	17.0
384	240	Hardy Hanson	364	- 1	4.6	12.3
160	150	Heavitree	155		4.5	10.9
3425	3048	Holt Jt	3148		2.1	16.9
347	219	Mansfield	326	+ 1	2.0	17.2
321	265	Mrston Thmp	301		2.7	15.1
541½	391½	Morland	526	- 3	2.7	15.8
8¼	6½	Paramount†	6½		4.2	
605	307	Regent Inns	582	- 9	1.5	22.9
2000	1287½	SA Breweries	1987½		1.7	
624	482	Scot & New	591½	- 14½	3.9	15.9
337	226	Scot & New P/P	330			
309	211	Vaux Group	280½	- 6½	4.4	15.8
637	448	Wetherspoon JD	630	.	1.6	
647	521	Whitbread	616	- 11½	4.1	16.0
585	483	Wolverhmptn D	536	- 2	3.3	13.8
290	186	Yates Bros	262		1.4	35.3
475	425	Young 'A'	445	.	4.2	19.9

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
150	125	Abbey	135	.	4.9	8.8
198	143	Allen	181	.	3.8	13.5
78	56	Amec	60		6.4	12.3
250	133	Andrews Sykes	215	.		..
493	412	Ashtead	433	- 14	2.1	14.3
105	50	Avonside†	53	.	7.8	8.4
38	27	Bailey (Ben) Con	27		4.9	6.5
41¼	30¼	Barcom▲	37			
307½	158	Barratt Devs†	190	- 3	4.9	
159	122	Beazer Homes†	152	+ 1	4.8	
254	180	Bellway	227		4.0	11.6
37	16	Bellwinch	16		1.6	8.6
421	315	Berkeley Gp	415	+ 3	2.3	12.9
185	168	Bett Bros	169		3.7	5.3

BUILDING MATERIALS

BUSINESS SERVICES

CHEMICALS

DISTRIBUTORS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
113¼	88¾	ABI Leis	100		5.2	11.5
695	535	Adam & Harvey	550	.	4.0	6.5
21	14	Alexanders	17½		6.0	23.9
112	88	Applevard	108		6.9	11.6
4¼	3¼	Ass Br Eng	3½		2.1	28.5
623	518	BSS Group	598	- 1	4.1	17.5
48	28	Benor	35			
24½	16	Bearing Power	17	- 1	7.4	8.4
38	18	Bogod 'A'	35	..	3.5	8.9
483	345	Bommert	481	- 1	3.5	18.5
21	10½	Bridgend Gp	17		1.5	
96	78	Brit Fittings	91		4.5	13.6
270	215	Caffyns	253	.	5.7	18.0
88	54	Central Mtr	65		5.3	17.7
60	36	Cook (DC)	58½		3.2	8.6
329¾	220	Cowie	315½	- 2	3.8	13.5
155	125	Dag Motors†	150	- 1	6.0	12.4
598	538	Denmans El	540		1.8	11.8
501	408	Diploma	418	- 14	4.2	13.7
332½	238	Electrocomponts	308	- 21	2.3	22.4
247	153	Eurodec Elec	236	- 6	2.2	16.3
235	147	Eurodollar	150	.	6.5	9.0
130	87	European Mtr	100	- 2	6.2	8.6
440	364	Evans Halshaw	435		4.5	11.2
695	512	Farnell Elect	662	- 15	1.7	21.5
72	48	Fife Indmar	66	..	8.2	10.8
24½	15	Gardiner	18½		5.5	8.1
29½	16	Glencheartom	36		7.4	
108	61	Gowrings†	87		3.2	14.5
178	148	Harris (Philip)	168	..	5.3	11.7
181	142	Headlam	180		2.9	15.7
554	258	Henlys†	517		2.4	19.2
107	81	Holders Tech	102		7.4	19.4
145	88	ISA Intl	141		1.4	15.3
430	274	Inchcape	318	- 8	6.0	28.3
66	53	Jacks (Wm)†	61		1.5	11.6
187	142	Kwik-Fit	180½	+ ½	3.2	15.4
358¼	264½	Lex Service	345	- 2	5.2	18.4
195	152	Lookers	156		6.1	8.6
22	14	Malaya Grp	14		4.3	18.9
8¼	5	Meadowser	7		0.9	16.1
71	40½	Midstates	40½	- 1½		4.6
484	330	Norbain†	470	- 5	1.3	16.1
203	78	Northamber	195	- 6	1.1	15.6
156	138	PCT†	139		6.9	9.9
283	225	Pendragon†	282		3.7	14.7
163	123	Perry Gp	163	.	8.0	12.1
146	126	Quick Group†	145	.	5.0	12.4
183	160	REA	161		3.1	19.2
7¼	2¼	Reece	3	.		
73	48	Ransom	49		3.2	10.0
6½	2½	Ross Gp	4			
63½	37½	SEP Inds	63		2.4	21.0
17½	10	Sanbe	13½	. .		7.7
74¼	38	TLS▼	68	- 1	3.4	11.7
266	226	Time Products	258	- 2	4.4	16.2
275	151	Vardy (Reg)	271		2.7	17.2
303	240	Wholesale Fitgs†	295	+ 1	5.0	18.4
80	62½	Wilshaw	75½	- 1½	1.2	19.6
83	56½	Wyko†	83		1.9	
91	68	Young (H)	88	- 1	5.1	13.6

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
175	146	Acwest†	146	- 1	6.7	
363	235	Antofagasta	323	- 5	1.8	15.1
940	728½	Broken Hill	846	- 18	2.8	
348	291	BTR†	317	- 3½	5.5	13.8
561	405	BAT†	533	+ 1	5.3	12.4
270½	163	Berisford Intl	165	- 3	1.1	43.7
127	71	Booth (J)	117	- 6	6.1	21.7
51	40½	Brierley Inv	47½	- ¼	9.1	2.6
948	743	Charter†	834	- 9	3.7	13.5
297	185	Cookson†	277	- 6	3.3	17.6
153	100	Grampian Hdg	146	- 3	5.1	16.3
243¼	195¾	Hanson	195¾	- 2¼	7.6	10.7
162½	135	Harrison Crsfld	154	- 3	7.3	16.4
354¼	300¾	Hutch Whamp	339½	- 7¼	2.2	18.5
584½	415½	Jardine Math	431	- 6	3.7	8.8
37	26	Jourdan (T)	26		6.1	6.9
171	134	Lonrho	164½	- 1	3.4	22.7
171	113	McLeod Russel	151	..	5.1	15.2
44	34	Porter Chadburn	38	- 1		14.2
601	447	Powell Duffryn	595	.	5.3	15.6
152	123	Raymond†	149½	- 2½	6.9	10.3
178	130	Sime Darby	163		2.7	
230	164	Stanley	217	..	4.9	15.8

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

LEISURE & HOTELS

MEDIA

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
465	335	Abbott Mead†	459		2.2	27.2
310	270	Adscene†	270	- 4	3.7	15.6
38½	22	Aegis Gp	37	- ¼	..	14.8
7¼	1¼	Allied Radio	3½			
13	9	BBB Design	10		..	..
360	156	Barcoer Index	249		4.5	30.7
10½	4½	Birkdale	6¾	- ¼		

MINING

OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
101	75	BWD	98	- 1	3.4	18.8
154	126	Baltic Plc†	150	...	2.7	8.2
78	44	Barry Bck Nat	58		6.5	14.2
226	148	Bolton Inv	209	- 5	...	..

PHARMACEUTICALS

PRINTING & PAPER

PROPERTY

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

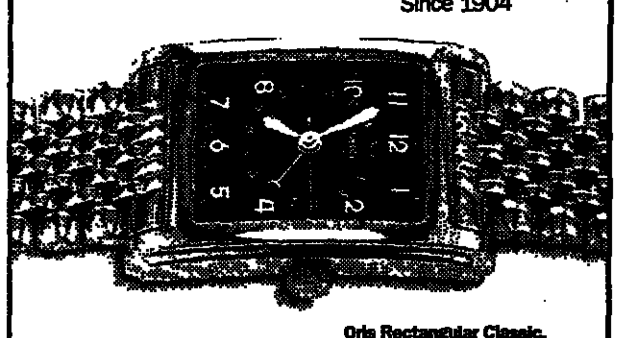
SUPPORT SERVICES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TEXTILES & APPAREL

TRANSPORT

WATER



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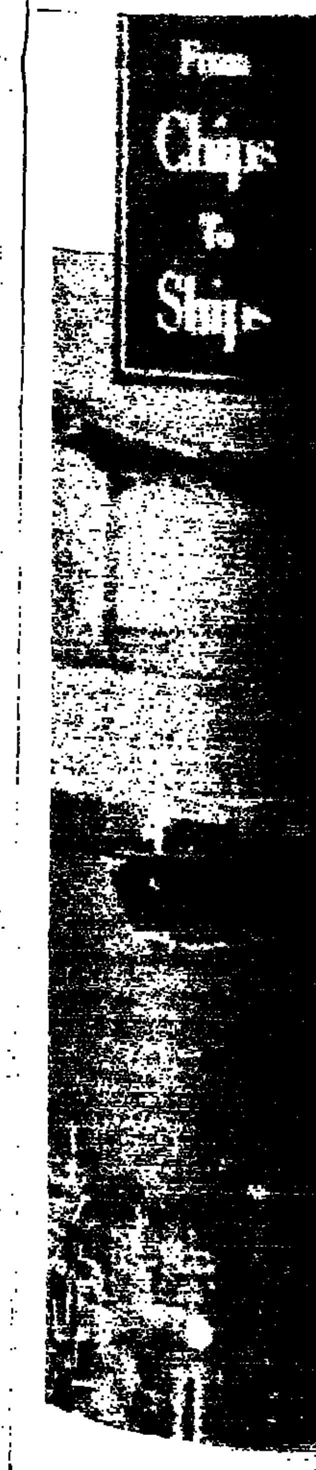
BRITISH FUNDS

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10¼% 1995	100⅝	- ⅛	12.68	6.27
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 14% 1996	102	- ⅛	13.73	6.49
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 15¼% 1996	104	- ⅛	14.55	6.58
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 13¼% 1996	103	- ⅛	12.76	6.64
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 10% 1996	103		9.65	6.55
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 1997	100	- ⅛	6.98	6.81
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 13¼% 1997	107	- ⅛	12.28	6.61
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 10½% 1997	104	- ⅛	10.02	6.67
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 1997	103	- ⅛	8.47	6.85
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	115	- ⅛	13.03	6.90
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	105	- ⅛	9.24	7.04
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 1998	100	- ⅛	7.23	7.11
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	98	- ⅛	6.82	7.21
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	115	- ⅛	12.09	7.21
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	121	- ⅛	12.74	7.26
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12% 1998	112	- ⅛	10.65	7.34
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	106	- ⅛	8.95	7.33
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	114	- ⅛	10.70	7.41
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	109	⅛	9.59	7.42
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6% 1999	95	- ⅛	6.30	7.48
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	109	- ⅛	9.37	7.53
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9% 2000	105	- ⅛	8.54	7.53
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2000	101	- ⅛	7.87	7.58
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 13% 2000	121	- ⅛	10.74	7.62
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	109	- ⅛	9.11	7.72
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	96	- ⅛	7.28	7.79
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9¾% 2002	109	- ⅛	8.91	7.92
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	100	- ⅛	8.00	7.98
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2003	111	- ⅛	8.98	8.07
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11½% 2001-04	115	- ⅛	9.94	7.87
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	78	- ⅛	4.45	6.81
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2004	102	- ⅛	8.75	8.13
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 2004	91	- ⅛	7.41	8.14

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
105	97	Treas 8½% 2005	102	- ⅛	8.30	8.14
111	103	Conv 9½% 2005	108	- ⅛	8.75	8.17
128	119	Treas 12½% 2003-05	125	- ⅛	9.97	8.13
99	92	Treas 7¾% 2006	96		8.01	8.20
101	93	Treas 8% 2002-06	98	- ⅛	8.11	8.18
123	113	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	119	- ⅛	9.82	8.09
105	97	Treas 8½% 2007	102	- ⅛	8.37	8.22
135	126	Treas 13½% 2004-08	132	- ⅛	10.21	8.14
110	101	Treas 9% 2008	105	- ⅛	8.50	8.24
102	94	Treas 8% 2009	97	- ⅛	8.19	8.28
LONGS (over 15 years)						
86	79	Treas 6¼% 2010	82	- ⅛	7.60	8.33
111	101	Conv 9% 2011	105	- ⅛	8.50	8.32
111	102	Treas 9% 2012	105	- ⅛	8.49	8.32
80	72	Treas 5½% 2008-12	77	- ⅛	7.11	7.99
102	93	Treas 8% 2013	96	- ⅛	8.25	8.33
99	91	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	94	- ⅛	8.21	8.35
110	100	Treas 8¾% 2017	103	- ⅛	8.47	8.38
137	127	Exch 12% 2013-17	133	- ⅛	9.01	8.40
UNDATED						
45	40	War Ln 3½%	41	- ⅛	8.38	...
31	28	Treas 2½%	29	- ⅛	8.47	...
49	45	Consols 4%	46	- ⅛	8.56	...
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					10%	5%
213	201	Treas IL 2% 1996	212	- ⅛	0.72	3.33
112	108	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	111	- ⅛	2.21	3.27
177	165	Treas IL 2½% 2001	174	- ⅛	3.21	3.67
173	161	Treas IL 2½% 2003	170	- ⅛	3.34	3.69
115	108	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	113	- ⅛	3.38	3.71
183	182	Treas IL 2% 2006	179	- ⅛	3.41	3.67
165	152	Treas IL 2½% 2009	161	- ⅛	3.51	3.73
171	157	Treas IL 2½% 2011	167	- ⅛	3.54	3.73
141	129	Treas IL 2½% 2013	137	- ⅛	3.53	3.78
150	137	Treas IL 2½% 2016	145	- ⅛	3.61	3.78
144	131	Treas IL 2½% 2020	139	- ⅛	3.65	3.79
120	109	Treas IL 2½% 2024	116	- ⅛	3.65	3.78
129	109	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	125	- ⅛	3.68	3.79

Labour scheme women

QSP beat market g



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Labour offers pilot scheme to help women find work

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

*WOMEN trying to get back to work will be able to use new business-backed interactive computer databases on child*care, benefits and training under a new scheme, to be announced today, to be piloted by Labour. The move comes as the Government lays out new proposals on training and jobs, and as unions claim that *new unemployment payments* will cause as many as 55,000 people to lose up to £25 million.

Business leaders are increasingly recognising the damaging impact of long-term unemployment. Private-sector *businesses will be* invited to join in partnership with Labour in providing interactive *computer terminals in public* places, such as libraries and shopping centres, with the aim of helping women, and especially those with children, back into work.

Under the scheme, which is to be piloted in Cambridge with *the support* of local business-backed training and enterprise councils, voluntary organisations and local authorities, women will be able *to use* the terminals to access database information on the availability of childcare, *welfare benefits*, jobsearch *skills* and to update their skills.

Local policymakers would be able to use information drawn from the terminals as an indicator of likely local demand levels.

Harriet Harman, Labour's main employment spokeswoman, says that "such a one-stop shop will prove an *invaluable help for mothers* who want to return to the workplace". Challenging the Government to adopt the idea, Ms Harman also attacks the growth in women's unemployment, and says that the attempt two years ago by the *Chancellor to help them by an* increase in family credit to help with childcare costs has "failed miserably". Only 4,100 families have so far used this to get back into work, in sharp contrast to the Government's claims at the time of a direct uptake of 50,000, she said.

Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, *is expected to outline* new job and training measures when she addresses the *Conservative Party conference* in Blackpool today.

But the Government's new jobseeker's allowance, which is to replace unemployment benefit, is attacked by the TUC, which says that 55,000 unemployed people whose husbands or wives are in work will lose all or some of their benefit, and collectively be at *least £25 million worse off.*

John Monks, TUC General-Secretary, said: "The Government *should use next month's* Budget to create jobs and training places for the long-term unemployed."

☐ Demand for senior executives is up by almost 20 per cent on the third quarter a year ago, according to a *survey today* by MSL.

QSP beats the market gloom

By Philip Pangalos

SHARES in Quality Software Products Holdings bucked the gloomy market trend with a 79p surge to 705p after the accounting *software group accompanied* improved first-half profits with plans to expand in America.

QSP is acquiring Global Software Inc, a North Carolina company that has been QSP's exclusive US distributor of accounting and procurement software since February 1994, for $11.4 million in shares and cash.

Alan Mordain, QSP's chairman, said: "The US is the *Big Apple as they say* and the place to be. We are very confident that the ac*quisition* will *significantly* enhance the group's earnings per share following 1996 when it is expected to have little impact."

QSP is also making a seven-for-20 rights issue, at 535p a share, to raise £14.7 million. The proceeds from the cash-call will help to finance the acquisition, repay $6.6 million of Global liabilities and provide working capital to establish overseas sales.

Organic growth allowed *QSP's pre-tax profits* to advance to £805,000 in the six months to June 30, against £604,000 last time, on turnover ahead 39 per cent to £10.1 million. The *interim dividend is raised* to 1.5p (1p) and is payable on January 15.

Mr Mordain is optimistic on prospects and is confident of progress. He added that international expansion continues.

"Our key products are available and live in some of the world's key markets *and we are accelerating the* marketing as quickly as possible, but you've got to *have a physical presence,*" he said. The company plans to launch an operation in Italy through a partnership. It also plans to open an office in New Zealand this year and another in Dubai in 1996.

ROBIN HAYES

Pamela Langworthy, marketing director at Thorntons, where profits fell by 13 per cent

Sun melts Thorntons profits

By Sarah Bagnall

THORNTONS, the chocolate manufacturer and retailer, revealed a boardroom shake-up *as it reported a 13 per cent* drop in profits to £10.5 million in the year to June 24.

The group is creating a *new* post of chief executive, which has gone to an outside candidate, triggering the departure of David Mitchell, the company's *UK* managing director. Mr Mitchell, who has been with the group for about six years, *will receive compensation for loss of office. His* salary is said to be more than £100,000 and he was on a two-*year contract.*

John Thornton said: "I have been chairman and chief executive of the group since 1988 and I thought it was time for some fresh imput."

His remarks came as he revealed the 13 per cent drop in profits and a *fall* in sales from £96.6 million to £95.6 million. Mr Thornton said the group's *performance suffered from management's failure* to get the product range right last Christmas coupled with ad*vertising mistakes. These* have now been rectified, he said.

Mr Thornton said the hot *summer weather* had boosted ice-cream sales but not enough to offset the adverse impact on chocolate sales.

The final dividend was lifted *from 3.45p to 3.8p, making a* total for the year of 5.3p, up from 4.9p last time. The *dividend is due November 30.*

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

William Sinclair at record levels

SALES are blooming for William Sinclair Holdings, the *garden and pet care suppliers, which yesterday announced* record profits for the year ending June 30. Pre-tax profits rose 13 per cent to more than £4.7 million, while turnover was up *almost 8 per cent to £44.4 million.* This was despite one-off reorganisation costs in the pets division and the effect of cold weather until May which dented sales of garden products during the peak selling season of March, April and May, Tom Sinclair, the chairman, said.

Profits in the horticulture division were up 31 per cent to £3.7 millon (£2.8 million). The pets, aquatic and household division's profits were down. Turnover was £10.6 million *(£10.3 million) and pre-tax profits* were £1.1 *million* (£1.3 million). Earnings per share rose to 14.7p (13p), and the total dividend per share increased to 7.6p (7.15p).

Double De La Rue sale

DE LA RUE, the security printer, has sold two former *subsidiaries of Portals, the printing equipment* company taken over early this year, raising £5.7 million. Servelec and Seprol, which specialise in information, control and *automation systems, have been sold to a management team,* which raised a total of £9 million to cover working capital and funds for expansion. 3i led the transaction, with bank facilities provided by the Bank of Scotland. De La Rue will initially retain a one-third interest in the business.

Boost for property

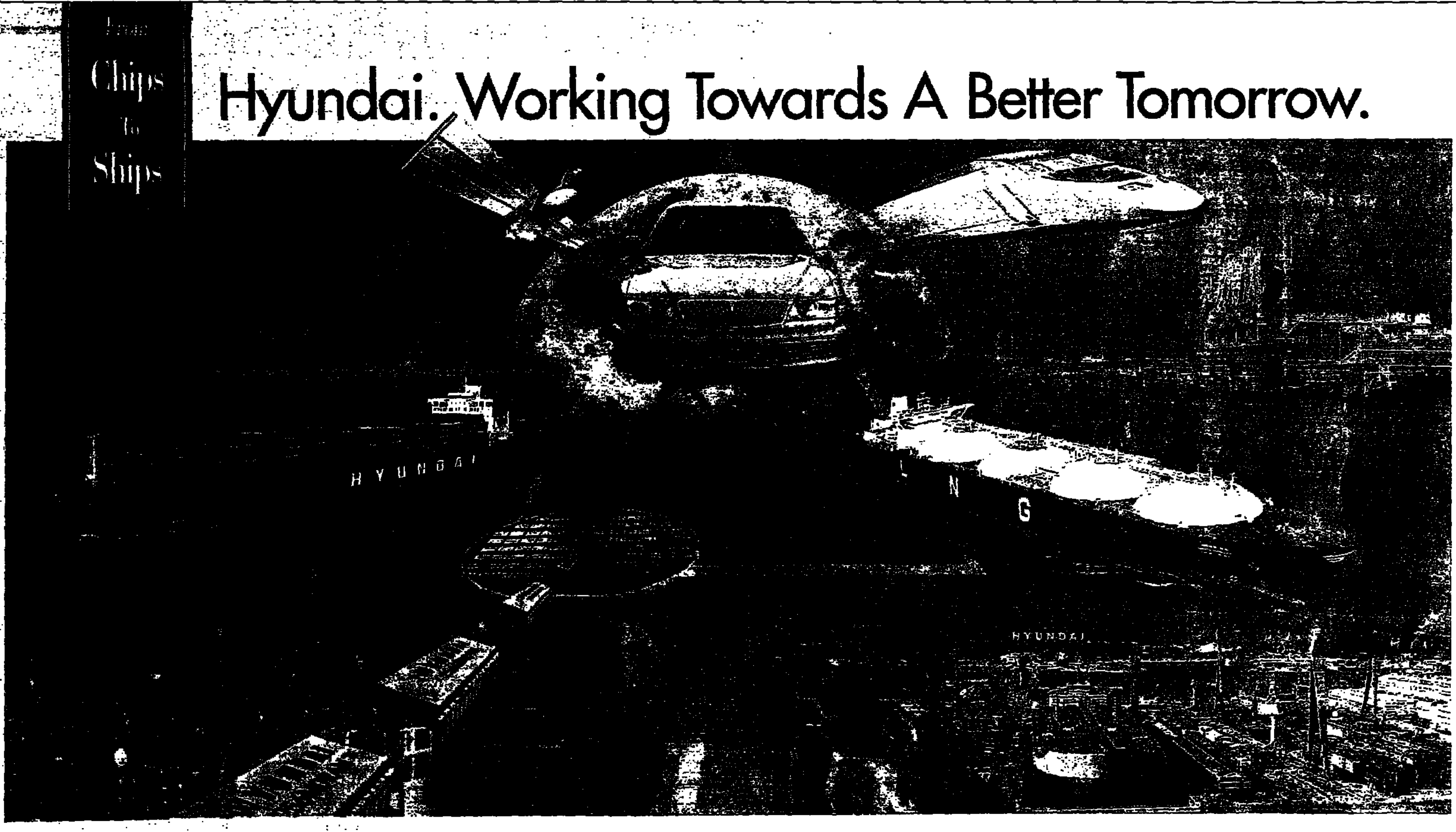
CAPITAL AND REGIONAL PROPERTIES, the retail and commercial property development company, signalled a return to acquisitions, saying that investment property prices had returned to realistic levels. The company reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £2.04 million from £1.24 million in the six months to June 24, with earnings of 3.66p a share (2.85p). The interim dividend is 0.8p (0.6p), payable November 24. The *company said the oversupply of property was diminishing* and rents and lease terms for landlords were improving.

Belgium for Kingfisher

DARTY, the French electrical *subsidiary of* Kingfisher, has bought out partners in a Belgian joint venture for £2.5 million. Darty is paying six joint venture partners in Vanden Borre, an electrical retail company, in cash for their 51 per cent stake. Vanden Borre has 18 stores in Belgium. For the year to February 28 its profits were £400,000 on turnover of £34.5 *million.* The move takes Kingfisher's electrical business outside the UK and France for the first time. Responsibility for running the *business will remain with the present management.*

Setback for Hartons

THE proposed refinancing of Hartons Group, the troubled distribution company, suffered a setback after Suter, the industrial holding company, said it would vote against the terms. Suter claims it was not consulted about the proposals, even though it has the power to block the refinancing by virtue of its holding of 21.4 per cent of Hartons ordinary *shares* and 31.3 per cent of the preference *shares.* Suter rejects the offer of 90p per preference share. Hartons has convened an extraordinary meeting for November 5.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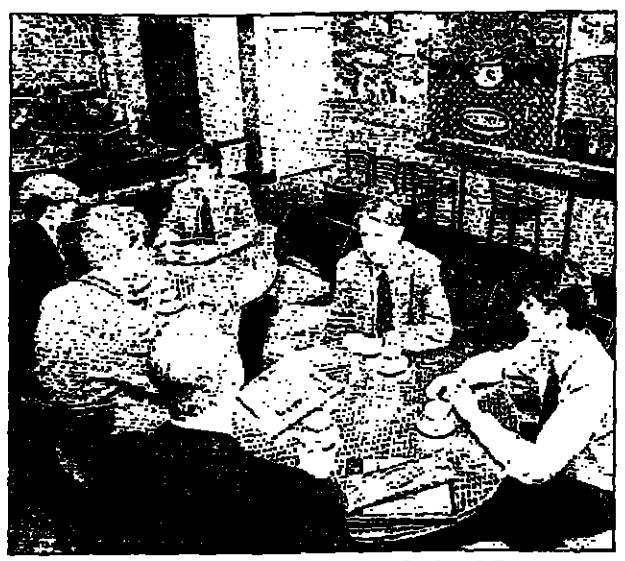
An establishment which has educated boys for 442 years shows few signs of change and an enduring love of tradition, says **David Tytler**



Pupils take a break with coffee in the Orchard Centre café

School with a sense of the past

CHRIS EADES/KENT NEWS & PIX

Tonbridge School has a traditional exterior but there is a £20 million development programme under way, including an arts and technology centre

Mr Burn, a modern-languages teacher, had taken as his text *The Tongues of Fire.* Within *an hour, fire was sweeping* through the chapel at Tonbridge School, Kent, leaving nothing but the walls. Now, seven years later, the chapel has been restored, complete with a new £800,000 organ, at a cost of £7 *million as* part of a £20 million develop*ment programme.*

The chapel is at the heart of the school, which was founded in 1553 and is proud of its traditions.

Martin Hammond, who became Headmaster five years ago, *makes no excuses for the* traditional way the school of 680 boys is run: "Boys eat all their meals in their houses. Chapel is central to school life, and the school is run in a very structured way. Nothing is left to chance."

Tonbridge is one of only a handful of all-boys boarding schools left. The rest have *either gone fully coeducational* or have admitted girls into the sixth form. "It is not that I have any great moral objection," Mr Hammond says, "but the school works as it is. It is what our parents want, and *if it isn't broken,* why mend it?"

The *no-nonsense* prospectus makes this clear: "There are no plans to increase the numbers in the school or to introduce coeducation."

Mr Hammond believes that the relatively small numbers *are an important factor in the* Tonbridge story. He is able to teach Latin, which is compulsory, to all new pupils, and can devote a considerable amount of time to interviewing parents. Both are vital, he believes. "If you lose the thread of contact in the classroom — if you don't know what the boys are interested in, you drift out *of touch. In a similar way,* contact with parents is vital. You can learn a lot about your school talking to parents. You learn what they are looking for and what they want for their sons.

*"If we were an 800 or 900-*pupil school we would not be able to do these things. The school is, for example, able to meet together under one roof virtually every day and if we were to lose that we would lose something very valuable."

Mr Hammond, who came *to Tonbridge from the City of* London School, where he had been head for six years, says the two main strengths of Tonbridge are its academic and sporting successes. The school is well established as one of the leading academic schools in the country. In league-table terms the school is number 11 for A levels. Only *two other boarding schools,* Eton and Winchester, are above it. Tonbridge was also the first school in the Headmasters' Conference to get a 100 per cent pass rate in A levels.

Mr Hammond, a classicist who taught at Eton for ten years, is also proud of the school's sporting record, not just because it is successful, but because of the number of games played. That allows even the least sporting of boys not only to enjoy his own *favourite but also, more* likely than not, to represent the school. Tonbridge can field up to 23 rugby teams, 12 cricket sides and 19 hockey teams.

"Boys enjoy playing in their team, even if it is Colts D," Mr Hammond says. "They take it seriously, the staff take it seriously and they are proud of their team. And because so *few schools can match our* depth, we frequently win."

There are, he says, two drawbacks to success in the examination room and on the playing fields. "It gives rise to two misconceptions. The first *is that people believe that* we are far more selective than we are, and so prep schools and parents are a little cautious. The second is that you have to be a sportsman to get to Tonbridge."

Boys enter the *school* at 13, and have to gain a Common Entrance mark of 60 per cent as an average of all the papers. This is below the level required by the "metropolitan powerhouses", Mr Hammond says. About two-thirds of the

Martin Hammond in the newly refurbished chapel

680 pupils are boarders, and Mr Hammond is justly proud that it can fill its boarding places without dropping the entry requirement. About 12 per cent of the boarders have homes overseas. This figure is divided almost equally between the children of British families living abroad and the sons of foreign nationals.

The school's ambitious development programme aims, Mr Hammond says, to match the *academic* and sporting excellence in the creative arts, *practical subjects* and the performing arts by providing *high-quality* facilities. Work has begun on a complex to house art, computers, electronics, reprographics, and an enlarged music school. Two theatres equipped to *professional* standards — one to seat 350, the other a *studio theatre* — are planned for the next *three years.*

"The building will be de*signed* to encourage interaction between its component parts. There is a natural link between music and computers, computers and art, and art and reprographics, *and all* have an impact on the work of the *theatre,*" *Mr* Hammond says.

Music already plays an important part in the life of the school and will continue to grow, not least because of the new organ in the rebuilt chapel, *with its better* seating and improved acoustics. The choir is able to boast a strong treble line through an imaginative scholarship scheme for prep-school pupils. They are selected to sing at Tonbridge while *still* being taught in a local prep school.

Fees are high, at £12,350 a year for boarders and £8,715 for day boys, but Mr Hammond *estimates that* about half the pupils are given financial help. There are 21 academic scholarships, nine or ten music, up to five art and — from next year — technology scholarships, and some choral *bursaries in addition to* the choral scholarships. The annual £800,000 cost is met by the Judde Foundation, named after the school's founder, Sir Andrew Judde. The governors of the school are, as they have been since the founder's death, the Skinners Company, one of *the oldest City* livery companies.

A contented man, but with a realistic view of his school, Mr Hammond is particularly proud of its reputation among its peers: "Our standing among other *schools* is high and that's the ultimate test. They like coming to Tonbridge. They say that there is a sense of decency about the place and that is one of the enduring strengths of the school."

Buildings for the future

Work has started on Tonbridge's £20 million development

Martin Hammond's *eyes light up at the* mention of buildings. Putting up *new* structures is his forte.

It was what he did at the City of London School for Boys, where the staff and pupils moved along the river to a new site, and it is what he *is doing* at Tonbridge. *The job* requires vision, management skills and *sang-froid* — plus opportunity. Mr Hammond seized his chance.

Tonbridge is today engaged in one of the most ambitious *building programmes* undertaken by any independent school in recent years. The exercise is costing £20 million — *most* of which is coming from the school's endowment, which yields *more* than £1 *million a year, and the* rest from an appeal presided over by the cricketer and old boy, Sir Colin Cowdrey.

The school is in the throes of erecting an arts and technology centre next to the beautifully restored chapel, which *will be joined* by two theatres — a main auditorium seating 350 *spectators* and a *studio* theatre — to form one large single complex.

"It will gather under one roof all the practical and artistic subjects and the performing arts. We have de*signed it in such a way to allow* the greatest interaction between these departments."

In preparation for that building, Mr Hammond visited other schools to see what they had done on the arts and *technology side — Whitgift,* St Paul's, Harrow, and the City of London Schools.

For a man who is such an avid classicist (Mr Hammond has published a translation of the *Iliad*), it may seem odd that he is so keen on arts and technology. He says: "I firmly believe in the importance of that *whole area of school* experience and opportunity."

In addition to the arts and *technology* complex, the school *has* refurbished the former School House to include a modern studies block, containing history, geography and economics.

It has also built a new biology department by putting in a floor behind the battlements at the top of the Victorian science block. The latter is an ingenious design containing state-of-the-art facilities. Biology *laboratories* have been designed with a teaching area at the front of the class — for ease of communication — *and a lab area at the rear.*

The school has put up a new social centre, *now* named the Orchard Centre, which adjoins the chapel and is designed to blend with the Edwardian Gothic architecture next door.

Upstairs, most of the day *boys can lunch in modern* splendour in three separate but linkable dining rooms, and luxuriate in a beautiful view of the cricket ground.

Downstairs, during breaktime and at weekends, all boys may use the café, with its black and chrome tables, where they can *listen to pop music,* eat unhealthy snacks and admire the brightly coloured murals which Mr Hammond commissioned from a young Old Etonian. The headmaster is proud of this café, and "the *boys love it", he says.*

As part of the building programme, Tonbridge is refurbishing boarding houses and revamping the original small stone chapel on the right of the entrance to the school. *Today, the chapel is* used as a permanent lecture theatre.

The final project is a sports hall — still in the design phase — to complement the gym, the all-weather athletics track, and the 100 acres of pitches. It *will boost the formidable* reputation the school enjoys for sports.

LUCY HODGES

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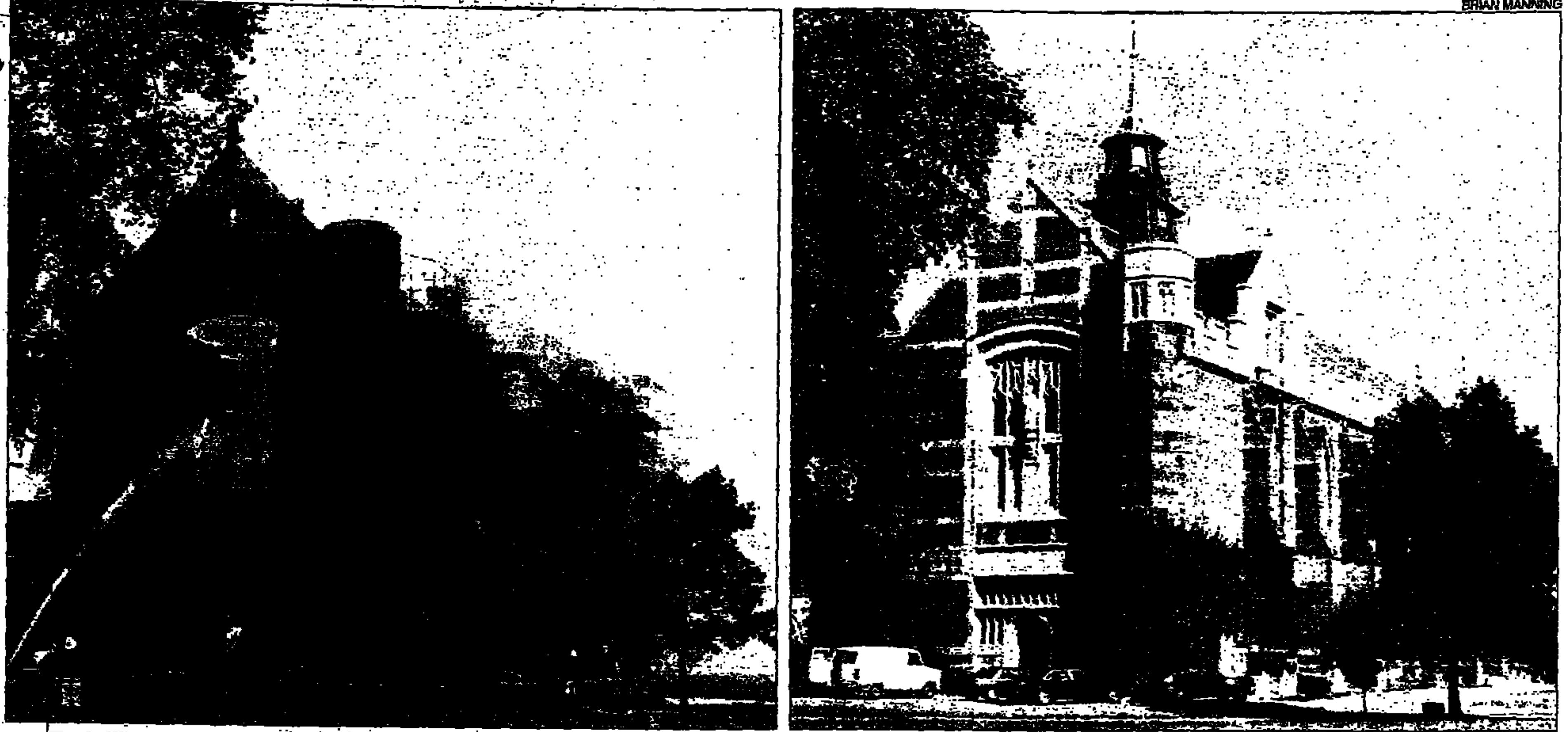
BRIAN MANNING

Tonbridge's Edwardian Gothic chapel was almost totally destroyed by fire in 1988. It has now been lovingly restored to its former glory at a cost of close to £7 million

Risen from the ashes

Lucy Hodges follows the project to restore Tonbridge chapel

Had it not been for a pupil who spied a wisp of smoke coming out of Tonbridge's chapel roof, the fire which caused such devastation on September 17, 1988, might have spread further.

The damage was bad enough. Tonbridge's Edwardian Gothic chapel, built in 1902, was virtually destroyed, its hammer-beam barrel-vaulted ceiling a pile of ashes, its silver cross buckled, its traceried windows gone for ever.

"It was like a furnace," remembers James Bell, the senior chaplain. "Nothing survived. It burnt back to the brick."

The fire, which began just after 9am, raged all morning. By noon the chapel was a ruin. The blaze was declared extinguished almost 24 hours after it began.

Nobody knows what caused the inferno, although building work to the roof might have created the conditions in which a spark could ignite and a fire spread uncontrollably. "Such was the devastation that there was nothing left for any investigation," Mr Bell says.

He and his fellow chaplain were determined not to miss a service, so it was business as usual the next day in makeshift locations; meanwhile, restoration had begun.

Originally, the school intended to rebuild the chapel on its site and chose architect Richard McCormac to do the job. Sensitive to the chaplains' needs for a chapel wherein they could see all the pupils, he produced a design with a bigger roof than the original. The 1902 chapel was long and narrow, reminiscent of King's College, Cambridge. Today's clergy prefer something cosier.

But the bigger roof was more expensive, particularly if erected on the original site, so it was decided to build a new chapel on a different site. However, local opposition sprang up in the shape of the Campaign for the Restoration of the School Chapel. It was well organised and influential and wanted the chapel restored on its original site.

Some local people, it transpired, cared passionately about the building. It was historically interesting, a much-loved feature of the Tonbridge skyline, and they were not going to let the school get away with a new version.

Two years after the fire, planning permission for the new chapel was rejected. The vote was narrow, but Tonbridge School had to think again. Martin Hammond's first job as headmaster was to decide whether to appeal against the decision or restore the chapel on its original site; he decided on the latter. Another architect, Donald Buttress, Surveyor to the Fabric at Westminster Abbey, produced a design which restored the original where possible and improvised the rest.

More complaints followed, but they were resolved in 1992, and the chapel — to be dedicated by the Bishop of Rochester on October 20 — is a masterful compromise between modern and traditional architectural forms.

"The complexity of the reconstruction of the chapel has possibly only been exceeded by St George's Chapel, Windsor, among recent ecclesiastical buildings to be devastated by fire," says David Walker, the architect assigned to the day-to-day running of the project. Mr Walker is an associate with Buttress, Fuller, Alsop, Williams, a Manchester-based practice which has dealt with restoration works to Westminster Abbey and St George's Hall, Liverpool.

The project cost £7 million, one of the largest sums ever spent on a Christian church or cathedral in England. The lead-covered spire is entirely new, the Lady Chapel has been moved to a better location, and the statue of St Augustine of Canterbury is new, carved by Peter Hills, a former director of art at Tonbridge. What is more, the new chapel will seat 810 people, compared with 450 in the former building.

The school, the staff and their guests gathering for the dedication will be able to feast their eyes on Mr Buttress's stunning stencils on the canopy above the altar — a riot of blue, green and gold — as well as his brass candelabra and the green fins which help to hold up the roof.

There is little in the chapel which has not been improved by Mr Buttress's attention to detail. The floor has been laid with Spanish marble, French limestone and Burlington slate from Westmorland; the pews give off the heady scent of European oak.

But, above all, the building has superb fire protection — the roof is made of a flame-resistant Canadian hemlock, and is alive with smoke detectors and hose reels.

THE CHURCH organ is surely one of man's most sublime creations, *John Young writes*. When Hilary Davan Wetton, head of music at Tonbridge school, ripples fingers along the console, pulling out banks of stops to bathe the new chapel in glorious impromptu sound, the visitor can merely marvel at the splendour of it all.

For the purpose of this brief recital we have interrupted Olav Oussoren, chief voicer in the Danish firm of Marcussen & Son, widely considered to be the best organ builders in the world.

Until our arrival he has been busy "voicing" — or tuning — the 4,830 separate pipes which have gone into the making of this resplendent instrument. The pipes range in length from some 32ft to less than one inch and are controlled by a panel of pedals and levers bearing descriptive names like Fanfare Trumpet and Dulciana, Voix Humaine and Tuba Mirabilis.

Julian Collings at the new organ

"A newly installed organ normally sounds dreadful, but this one seemed to be in tune almost as soon as it was installed," Mr Davan Wetton says.

The decision to buy Danish was not taken lightly. But the £800,000 Danish tender was considered to offer the best value for money, says Martin Hammond, the school's Headmaster.

"Some people would have liked us to buy British, but we wanted the best," Mr Davan Wetton says. "This is a Rolls-Royce quality instrument.

"There has always been a tradition of organ playing at Tonbridge, and now we have unquestionably the finest organ of any school in Britain," Mr Davan Wetton says proudly. It has already been "christened" by Julian Collings, a 14-year-old music scholar, who will feature in the consecration service of the new chapel on October 20. It will be played in public for the first time by Simon Preston on November 17.

Long history of learning

Tonbridge has moved to cast off the worst of the old ways

For all its modern grandeur, Tonbridge had modest beginnings. Founded in Tudor times by a rich London merchant, Sir Andrew Judde, it began life as a "free" grammar school for up to 60 local boys.

According to Barry Orchard, who taught at the school and has written its history, *A Look at the Head and the Fifty*, Tonbridge was unusual for two reasons. It was set up as a boarding school, unlike most of the other "free" schools, and it was bequeathed to the Worshipful Company of Skinners, one of the oldest City livery companies, which has run the institution ever since.

Those two factors may explain how it managed to survive and to grow into a major public school despite frequent litigation about the meaning of the word "free" in Judde's will. Certainly, the Skinners Company has provided funds for new buildings over the centuries with the income from the property Sir Andrew left in the City of London and St Pancras for this purpose.

'The school is forever linked with cricket'

For most of its first 300 years, boys received a rigid and tedious classical diet of lessons in an atmosphere that was pleasant enough, and certainly free from the bullying and misery common at other boarding schools. Pupils entered the school at the age of eight and learnt Latin, English and a little Greek.

It was in the last century that Tonbridge's name began to become synonymous with cricket. Major building work took place twice — in the mid-18th century, and again in the late-19th century after the school had bought the land known as The Head, the First XI cricket ground.

The Head became Tonbridge's focal point, says Barry Orchard in his book. "Not many schools have the benefit of a beautiful, almost sacred, piece of ground right at the heart of the school." It was the inspiration for the exquisite oil painting executed by C.T. Dodd, *The Cricket Match at Tonbridge School 1851*, which depicts boys playing the game in the company of top-hatted masters, watched over by Victorian matrons. Charles Tattershall Dodd was drawing master at the school from 1834 to 1878.

Nevertheless, the school did not really begin to prosper until the last half of the 1800s when it grew in size and when sport began to figure large in daily life.

That may explain E.M. Forster's antipathy to the place. He is thought to have hated his time at school. In *The Longest Journey* he painted a picture of a fictitious school reeking with orthodoxy and chauvinism.

It wasn't until this century that the school built the famous red brick chapel which burnt down in 1988. There was some complaint about the red brick not matching the stone of the rest of the buildings, but with the passage of years the contrast became less stark.

Many boys and masters served in both world wars and some gave their lives. In 1943 Sidney Keyes, a Tonbridge old boy and a poet of the Second World War, was killed in action. He was only 20. Unlike E.M. Forster, he had happy memories of "a civilised school, tolerant of those who preferred debate and writing to scrummaging".

But there remained some of the worst elements of public school life, including a complicated privilege system which allowed boys to beat other boys. Successive headmasters have set about reforming Tonbridge, but it was not until 1965 that fagging was abolished, to some protests. The school was at last catching up with the times.

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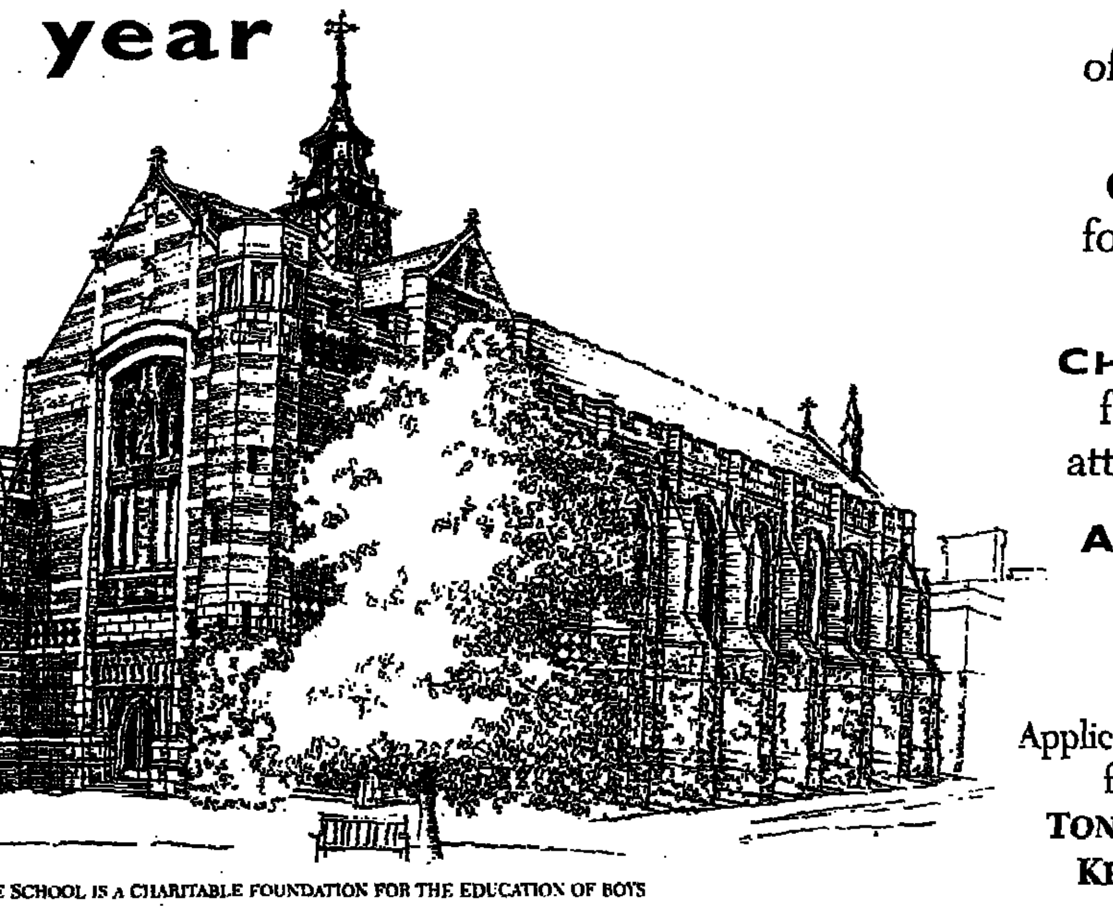

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■ **THEATRE 1**

It wasn't just homosexuality John Osborne was writing about in *A Patriot For Me*. He was damning Britain

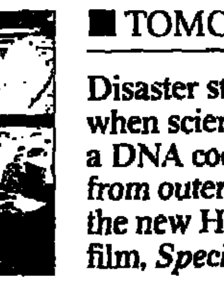
■ **THEATRE 2**

In the West End, Tommy Steele works hard to make sure everyone has a good time at *What a Show!*

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ **THEATRE 3**

See Vanessa Redgrave starring in *Antony and Cleopatra* in Cardiff, with *The Times* Theatre Club



■ **TOMORROW**

Disaster strikes when scientists mix a DNA cocktail from outer space, in the new Hollywood film, *Species*

The lost refuge of a scoundrel

Benedict Nightingale on what angered John Osborne, whose controversial *A Patriot for Me* is being revived

When the RSC opens its revival of John Osborne's *A Patriot for Me* at the Barbican next week be prepared for megatons of prurient verbiage identifying the dramatist with his main character, a Habsburg officer destroyed by his homosexuality. After all, wasn't Osborne sensationally outed before he had time to compose a cantankerous diatribe against the conditions in the grave to which, sadly, he went last year?

But if that happens there is a danger of something more central getting missed. *A Patriot for Me* involves a decadent, class-ridden empire and, if its hypocrisies were peculiar to turn-of-the century Austria, I do not think Osborne would have bothered to write it.

All his plays, from Look Back in Anger in 1956 to *Déjà Vu* in 1992, have been state-of-England plays. Even *Luther*, a painstaking portrait of the rebel and reformer, leaves you in little doubt that a spoilt and corrupt Vatican might actually be sited just off Horseguards Parade. And his posthumous *Henry Purcell*, which is to be performed on television soon, manages to slip in snarky comments on Twyford Down, the tabloids, and political correctness. In radical youth and cranky old age alike, Osborne could be relied on to snipe or, more often, rage at every aspect of Britain that offended his quirky patriotism.

Early on, his verbal blowtorch was aimed pretty *straightforwardly at an ossified* Establishment. There was no doubting *the contempt of* Jimmy Porter, product of what he called a white-tile university, for the clubby world of his MP brother-in-law, the bowler-hatted "platitude from *outer space*", or for the Bishop of Bromley, who described it as a Christian duty to manufacture H-bombs. After *Look Back in Anger* came *The Entertainer*, in which a raddled Archie Rice ended up in full comedian's gear, singing "Good old England, you're my cup of tea, and I don't want no *drab equality*" as a *bloated*, nude Britannia lolled insolently in the background.

> ❛All around he saw assaults on England's soul❜

The offstage Osborne was not exactly a conformist either. *As a boy he had been expelled* from school for hitting his headmaster, who had objected to his mockery of the Royal Family, and as a successful dramatist he was arrested and fined for joining a sit-in against nuclear weapons. Fury at what he saw as a bomb-happy ruling class also lay behind the open letter he improvised as he sat beneath the Riviera vines tippling Ricard *one morning* in 1961: "Damn you, England, you're rotting now and quite soon you'll disappear."

That intemperate missive *had consequences. The papers* denounced the cad Osborne. A *Major de Vere Gordon*-MacLean turned up at his French hideaway with a rifle and a Labrador, saying he had "come to accept your apologies to Britain". When Osborne went to Sussex, his house was picketed by villagers carrying placards reading "Damn you Osborne" and "Hellingly's Angry Old Men Object".

Throughout Osborne's career his plays, too, upset the conventional. In 1959, his *World of Paul Slickey* provoked London first-nighters to *chase him up the Charing* Cross Road yelling "bloody rubbish" in public-school voices. At Brighton in 1972 *A Sense of Detachment* inspired *an old lady to throw her boots* on the stage and bawl: "How can you, Lady Redgrave?" at Michael Redgrave's wife, Rachel Kempson.

But more than 14 years separated those plays. On the face of it, a giant shift of attitude did too. *Slickey* attacked snobbism, royalty worship, the aristocracy and gossip columnists. *Detachment* ended up with the characters reading old love-poems and bits of hard porn, one after the other, by way of suggesting that crude moneymen had hijacked our culture: "We are part of an efficient maximum productive Economic Union. We do not love, eat or cherish. We exchange."

No wonder Osborne was, as *he himself* ruefully *said*, increasingly "vilified by the priglets as a Tory squire and blimp". The nostalgia for some Edwardian Eden that had been *vestigially apparent* in *Anger* and *The Entertainer* became more and more marked as his rhetorical Gatling began to pepper idols of *every style and variety: the* cool, dreamy yet pushy youth of the *1960s* in *Inadmissible Evidence*, a Philistine American counter-culture in *West of Suez* and, in *Time Present*, hippies, underground papers, women politicians, lady writers, the Labour Party, "committed" actresses such as Vanessa Redgrave, the *nation's* technological pretensions, and "pooves".

Yet perhaps there was a consistency in his scorn. He despised consensus, conformism. He hated attempts to institutionalise *shallow*, fly-by-night attitudes as orthodoxies, whether they came from the wet Left, the go-getting Right or anywhere else. All *around he saw assaults on* England's soul, and again and again he gave his countrymen what he called "lessons in feeling". But increasingly this *meant that his plays became* scatter-shot denunciations, which winged a *hundred* targets and penetrated none. There were times when one felt that paranoia had triumphed over anger, prejudice over conviction and, sadly, clutter over art.

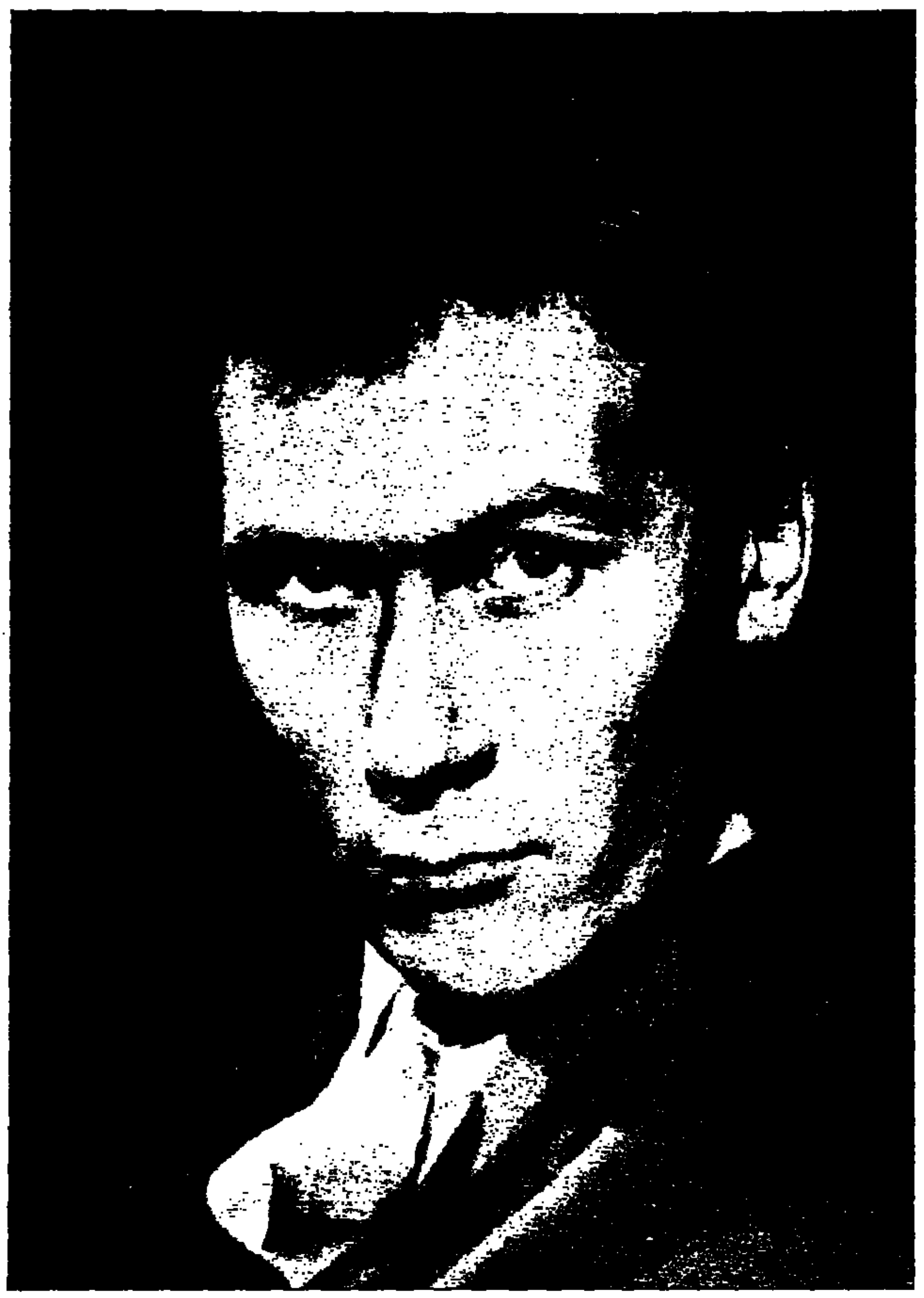
That is not an accusation which can be levelled at *Patriot*. To rise in the imperial army Alfred Redl *must* battle at least as much with a lowly background as with his homosexuality. But *he is the quietest* and most aloof of all Osborne's outsiders. He seethes in private rather than rails in public. The result *is* a subtler, slyer and maybe more convincing exposé of Establish*ment folly than in any of his* other plays.

By the time of his death we had grown almost fond of Osborne the human vitriol bottle. That *explains* the largely tolerant reception of his last play, *Déjà Vu*, which threw an ageing Jimmy Porter back into the fray. This time, his hate-objects included the Arts Council, people called Debbie and Kevin, charities with names like Aids Concern, the smoke police, Australians, vegetarians, Euro-MPs, and a Bishop of Bromley who now wears jeans and says: "What is Christianity but the story of the one-parent family?" It was outrageous, but it was fun.

Maybe the same will be true of the more complex *Henry Purcell*, which hops between the present day and the Restoration and suggests that, despite plagues and hangings, *then was more* appealing than now. One speech denounces a modern "Cromwellian army of prigs, knighthood-seekers and grubbing time-servers", another a *monarchy* like "a tarnished gold filling in a *mouthful of decay*", and yet another a Common Market that's "about as drab a name for such a monumental swindle since some bright little *German ad-man thought* of putting wholesale murder on the market as National *Socialism*".

The speaker is nominally an actor and *would*-be playwright who fantasises he is Charles II, but his real identity is unmissable.

● A Patriot for Me *previews from Friday at the Barbican, London EC2 (0171-638 8891), opens Oct 18*



John Osborne: his 1965 *A Patriot for Me* is a convincing exposé of Establishment folly

Charmed by a little white bull

What a Show!
Prince of Wales

Tommy Steele is the star of this show, the focal point, the toothy idol of *mums throughout the theatre*, the force that has brought together an ensemble of ten dancers and an orchestra of 14 (in black jackets before the *interval and then in cyclamen* pink), and after a while I was able to warm to his have-a-go energy and good humour, though I often cooled off again and had to be coaxed back. And boy, does he work at the coaxing.

He makes his first appearance at the top of a flight of steps, backed with twinkling lights and the target of a dozen *spots coming at him from all* directions. He wears a white suit and sings, "Somebody's got to see me!" but he's not exactly easy to miss. He holds his arms out a lot, sometimes as if he would hug us all, sometimes stretched far out at each side. Half close your eyes and he looks like laundry on a washing-line.

In his next number he cries, "What is it we're looking for? Applause, applause!" The ensemble at the side of the stage clap hands to the rhythm, and the audience is not discouraged from following suit. I *don't care if it's the title-song of* a well-known show, there's something offputting in the sight of a performer clamouring so intensely for plaudits.

Devoted fans adore all this stuff, and at the end of the show throw bouquets onto the stage because they love *him* so. By then he has found another revealing song, half apologising to someone *who has passed* a lifetime in his shadow but assuring her — and us too — "I would be nothing without you!" I guess that's true, and adoring fans presumably don't mind being called the wind beneath his wing, but I longed for a somewhat softer self-sell.

We do get this in the middle areas of the show, when the *songs are prefaced* by amusingly informative anecdotes. He engagingly reveals that before he *shot* to attention singing *Rock with the Cave Man*, and then went to No 1 with *Singing the Blues*, he toured American air bases *with a country and western* group and called himself Chick Hicks.

That was in 1956, and he is both an undoubted stayer and a link with times long gone, overwhelmed, when still a *merchant seaman on the* Atlantic run, by the sight of Buddy Holly turning country into rock; later dancing with Gene Kelly, filming with Fred Astaire.

He certainly doesn't look 58, manages some nifty dance routines, and with a couple from the ensemble taps successfully through the *Good Morning* number from *Singing in the Rain* that climaxes with the three of them overturning the sofa and landing inches from the *front stalls*.

The girls and boys in the ensemble dance superbly in unison, show a nice sense of comedy fighting for the mike in *I Get Around* and are good to look at. Of course Tommy sings *The Little White Bull* but you can always shut your ears to that one, and *What a Mouth* and *What a Picture* more than make up for it.

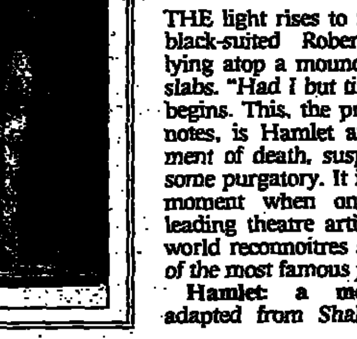
JEREMY KINGSTON

Tommy Steele, as irrepressible as ever in the sparkling *What a Show!*

VISIONS OF AFRICA

A daily series of items from the Royal Academy's current exhibition of African art

Ritual Pounder, Senufo, Ivory Coast, early 20th century, wood



POUNDERS were commonly used in the rituals that took place before and after the burial of an elder from the *Poro tribes. The pounders* would keep time with the Poro orchestra. Sometimes the grave itself would be pounded, to *ensure the dead man's* spirit did not linger and went to the "village of the dead". This example was removed from one *of the sacred forests of* Latha in 1950.

Andy Lavender visits Paris to see Robert Wilson's Shakespearean monologue and a Giorgio Strehler production

One man and his Hamlet

THE light rises to reveal the black-suited Robert Wilson lying atop a mound of stony slabs. "Had I but time..." he begins. This, the programme notes, is Hamlet at his mo*ment of death, suspended in some* purgatory. It is also the moment when one of the leading theatre artists in the world reconnoitres again one *of the* most famous plays.

Hamlet: a monologue, adapted *from Shakespeare's* play by Wilson and Wolfgang Wiens, opened in Houston earlier this year and has just *finished a short run at the* Bobigny Theatre in Paris. As the title suggests, Wilson is the only presence on stage. He does not stop at delivering *Hamlet's lines, however, but* leaps between other speeches and, in places, between different parts of the play in re*enacting Hamlet's story*. He presents, you might say, virtual scenes — 15 of them, in fact, each with a different scenic arrangement depicted in the *programme by means of* Wilson's simple sketches. The slabs are gradually whittled away until at one stage Wilson *reclines in mid-air on the only* one which remains. The lighting is quite beautifully controlled. A pinpoint spot casts an orange gleam on a sword, *for instance, when the only* other illumination is a cold spotlight on Wilson.

Wilson's collaborator, Hans Peter Kuhn, provides suitably atmospheric *music* and sound, and some of the text is delivered by way of a taped voiceover with which Wilson integrates his live utterances. Amid technological sophistication there are some inge*niously simple scenic devices*. A black curtain comes halfway across the stage: Wilson looks behind it to see Claudius praying and as he steps behind, out of *sight*, Claudius's lines issue forth. There is, too, *a desperate ambience* to the final scene in which Wilson pulls items of various characters' costumes from a trunk. Wilson's work has always *been painterly, a theatre of* images. Here he also proves that he is a distinctive performer.

What emerges from this *radical solo? In some respects Hamlet: a monologue* is the apogee of Wilson's highly individual art, indicating its strengths and perhaps its limit zones. I *found myself marvel*ling not at anything in Hamlet's story but at the smooth *panache of the theatrical event* — a dazzling, intellectual, visceral show whose emotional *roots nonetheless seem thinly* spread. It is a hugely skilful work, and it should not be beyond British *producers* to bring so fascinating a production to this country.

The trip to Paris provided the opportunity to see another *show of genuine international* stature. The Italian Giorgio Strehler's production of Marivaux's **Luile des Esclaves** *returned to the Odéon* Theatre in Paris for a week after a successful run last season. The play owes something of a debt to Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. *Four characters are washed* up on an island, whose Prospero-like ruler commands that they swap roles: thus Harlequin becomes his master's *master* and Silvia her mistress's mistress. The performers were *given ample* scope for comic displays of lordliness and degradation, but the production surrounding them was a model of *mature restraint. The cumula*tive effect — much enhanced by Strehler's use of low-level side-lighting — was of a burlesque seen through a mist, broad but strangely delicate. The *show ended with a* typically Strehleresque coup which captured these shifts of tone. Now returned to their original social stations, the *characters begin a celebratory* closing dance. There is a thunderclap and rain suddenly falls. The performers throw their tops into the wings and *cavort semi-naked as the dim* light fades. What had seemed a tamely conventional ending is suddenly transfused with wild abandon, echoing the production's sympathies with the more vigorous passions of *the servants. One final* observation: it is possible in French theatres to turn out the Exit lights, at least temporarily. This allows an absolute black*out, which both directors*, so sensitive with light, made full use of. It is a wonderful effect.

London's finest

THE TIMES
THE THEATRE CLUB

TWO of Britain's greatest playwrights — and a much-loved all-round entertainer — feature in special Theatre Club offers in the West End. *First, Stephen Daldry's* award-winning production of **J.B. Priestley's** drama *An Inspector Calls* returns to London's West End. The play is being staged at the Garrick Theatre, and stars Nicholas *Woodeson*, Edward Peel, Susan Engel and Helen Schlesinger. Tickets £18.50 (normally £23.50) for Mon-Thurs evening performances and Wednesday *and* Saturday matinees on Oct 23-26, 28, 30, 31; Nov 1-2, 4. Tel 0171-494 5085.

James Wilby and Denis Quilley star in the Royal Shakespeare *Company's* production of **John Osborne's** *A Patriot for Me* at the Barbican Theatre. This gripping depiction of a man determined to conceal his background and *personality* was written in 1965, and banned for some time because of its portrayal of homosexuality. Theatre Club members can save £5 on stalls or circle seats (normally *up to* £24) for performances *on* Oct 13-14, 16-19, 24-26. Tel 0171-638 8891.

Finally, **Tommy Steele** has hit the Prince of Wales Theatre with *his dazzling song-and-dance* spectacular *What a Show!* Featuring a company of 23 dancers, singers and musicians, it includes classic songs from the charts, high-energy rock'n'roll and *re-creations of showstopping* production numbers from stage musicals. Top-priced tickets £20 (normally £25) for Mon-Fri evening performances and Wednesday and *Saturday* matinees until Oct 21. Tel 0171-839 5972 (Mon-Sat 10am-6pm), quoting *The Times* Theatre Club offer

THIS WEEK'S OTHER OFFERS

CREWE
Lyceum Theatre
Oct 23, 25, 28

● SHARON MAUGHAN and Paul Shelley *star* in the National Theatre production of *Arcadia*, the *time-teasing* comedy by Tom Stoppard. A historian clashes with an unscrupulous academic as they search for clues to unravel a *mystery* clouded by time. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £10.50 to £12.50) for the Monday *night performance* and Wednesday and Saturday matinees. Tel 01270 537333

CARDIFF
New Theatre
Oct 16

● VANESSA REDGRAVE stars in and directs Shakespeare's magnificent historical *tragedy — and* ageless love story — *Antony and Cleopatra*. Members can save £4 on tickets (normally £16 and £18). *Tel* 01222 878889

EASTBOURNE
Royal Hippodrome Theatre
Oct 24-28

● BERNARD J. TAYLOR'S Gothic musical *Nosferatu the Vampire* stars Peter Straker and Christopher Biggins. Tickets £5.50 to £9 (normally £6.50 to £10.50) and meet members of the cast after the last night's performance. Tel 01323 412000

WORCESTER
Swan Theatre
Oct 24-27

● J.B. PRIESTLEY'S *I Have Been Before* tells the story of a group of strangers who gather for a weekend in a Yorkshire inn, *and have their* unhappy futures foretold by the mysterious Dr Goriter. Two tickets for the price of one (normally £8). Tel 01905 27322

GO ON A MURDER WEEKEND

●SEE Mark Rylance and Jane Horrocks in Rylance's controversial *production of Shakespeare's Macbeth* at the Malvern Festival Theatre over the weekend of Nov 11-12. For £63 per person, based on double occupancy, members can see the play, *enjoy supper* in a private room before the performance — with complimentary drinks during the interval — and then have a *bed-and-breakfast* stay at the three-star De Vere Abbey Hotel, opposite the theatre. To book, call 01684 892277. Please secure your booking before Oct 28

JOIN NOW

TO JOIN the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your *name, address and* telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO2 1JL, or telephone 01206 791737 using your credit card. Please allow 28 *days for delivery of your* membership pack. For general inquiries call 0171-387 9673

TO BOOK for any or all *of this week's special* offers, please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the *ticket you receive is the* special price negotiated by the Theatre Club. There may be a transaction charge to cover postage. Membership of the Theatre Club costs £12.50 a year and entitles *members to buy two* tickets for any club offer. Every week, members have the opportunity to save money, meet the cast and directors of productions, or visit different theatres on weekend breaks exclusive to the Theatre Club.

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November 3 4 6 7 8 9 13 14 17 18 *and continuing*

The Pit

☎ 0171 638 8891

Joseph Fiennes as play Christ

■ CHOICE 1

Dennis Potter's version of the death of Christ, *Son of Man*, is staged

VENUE: All week at the *Barbican Pit in London*

■ CHOICE 2

Leo McKern takes the title role in the theatrical comedy, *Hobson's Choice*

VENUE: All week at the *Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue*

THE TIMES ARTS

■ CHOICE 3

Josephine Barstow tackles one of the great barnstorming roles in *Jenufa*

VENUE: Tonight at the Grand, Leeds

■ MUSIC

"Should a cathedral choir exist only for those who can afford the fees?" Not if the cathedral is in Carlisle

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

SON OF MAN First night of previews for Dennis Potter's version of the death of Christ: freedom-fighter Joseph Fiennes plays Jesus. Bill Bryden directs an RSC debut for each
Pit Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). *Tonight-Mon, 7.15pm, mat* Sat 2pm. Opens Oct 17, 7pm ♿

HOBSON'S CHOICE Leo McKern takes the title role of Harold Brighouse's warm-hearted comedy. Nichola McAuliffe and Graham Turner give delightful performances as daughter and son-in-law in Frank Hauser's acclaimed production from Chichester.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat 3pm. Until Dec 9 ♿

THE MASTER BUILDER *In a busy* night for theatre openings, Alan Bates, Gemma Jones and new young actress-to-watch Victoria Hamilton also begin previews in Ibsen's male menopause drama. Peter Hall directs
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.45pm. Opens Fri, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm ♿

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM After a superlative beginning to their Beethoven cycle, Simon Rattle and the **City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra** move on to the Fourth and Fifth Symphonies. A real treat — Rattle has not lost his extraordinary talent for making the most familiar music sound fresh and unexpected
Symphony Hall *Broad Street* ♿ (0121-212 3333). Tonight, 7.30pm, then *in* **London**, Barbican ♿ (0171-638 8891), Fri

LEEDS Opera North continues its season with Janáček's heart-wrenching *masterpiece Jenůfa*, from the team of director-designer Tom Cairns and music director Paul Daniel. The US dramatic soprano Stephanie Friede sings the title role. Josephine Barstow takes on one of opera's *great barnstorming roles*, the morally-upright, child-murdering Kostelnička, and Pauline Tinsley returns as the formidable Grannie
Grand New Briggate (0113-244 0971/245 9351). Tonight and Fri, 7.15pm. In rep until Nov 18 ♿

MANCHESTER Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, principal conductor of the **Hallé Orchestra** from 1984-1991, returns to conduct a triple-bill. He is joined by mezzo soprano Penelope Walker for a programme of Wagner's overture, *The Flying Dutchman* and *Wesendonck Songs*, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 5 in E minor.
Free Trade Hall, Peter Street (0161-*634 1712*). Tonight, Thurs and Sun, 7.30pm ♿

BROMLEY. Michael Elphick heads the cast in Eric Chappell's newest comedy, **It Can Damage Your Health**. Based on the characters from his popular television series *Only When I Laugh*, with Geoffrey Davies and Paul Venables. Robert Chetwyn directs
Churchill, High Street (0181-460 *6677) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs* and Sat, 2.30pm. Until Oct 28 ♿

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican Art of African Textiles (0171-638 4141) **British Museum** Passionate Art of Utamaro (0171-636 1555) **Design Museum** Paul Smith True Brit (0171-378 6055) **National Gallery** Three Paintings by Piero di Cosimo (0171-747 2885) **National Portrait Gallery** *John Kobal Photographic Portrait Award* (0171-306 0055) ***Royal Academy*** Africa: Art of a Continent (0171-439 7438) **Serpentine** Big City: Artists from Africa (0171-723 9072) **Tate** Artists's Books (0171-887 8000) **Whitechapel** Seven Stones about Modern Art in Africa (0171-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

***Jeremy Kingston's assessment* of theatre showing in London**

■ ***House full, returns only***
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **BEDFELLOWS** A musical farce by David Anderson and David MacLennan: can the cuppers of Tory MP Sir Christopher Fairweean possibly resemble those of the late Sir Nicholas Fairbairn?
Tricycle Kilburn High Road, NW6 *(0171-328 1000). Tonight-Sat, 8pm, mat* Sat 4pm. Final week ♿

☐ ***COMMUNICATING DOORS*** Alan Ayckbourn's ingenious time-travel play: *Julia McKenzie flees from a vengeful enemy* via the doors of a hotel that take her forward and back a decade
Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5530). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

☐ **DEAD FUNNY** Belinda Lang, Kevin McNally and Sam Kelly in Terry Johnson's sharply funny play about comics and some of their fans
Savoy The Strand, WC2 *(0171-836 8888) Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm*, mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat, 5pm ♿

◪ **EDDIE IZZARD** The quirky comedian returns for another season of surreal musings on life
Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Ave, WC2 *(0171-379 5399). Now previewing, 8pm.* Opens tomorrow, 7pm ♿

☐ **FUNNY MONEY** Ray Cooney as a man who picks up the wrong briefcase *and finds himself richer by £735,000 in* used £50 notes. The ensuing havoc involves Sylvia Sims, Henry McGee and Charlie Drake
Playhouse Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm ♿

☐ **THE HOTHOUSE:** Tony Haygarth, Celia Imrie, John Shrapnel and Pinter himself in his long-buried play in which the staff of a mental hospital scheme for dominance
Comedy, *Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731)*. Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

■ **A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC** Elegant *and successful production by Sean* Mathias of Sondheim's Swedish charmer. Judi Dench, Patricia Hodge, Sian Phillips and Lambert Wilson among the stars shining in the night
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Oct 17, *7.15pm, mats Sat and Tue, 2pm* ♿

◪ **RAT IN THE SKULL** The Royal Court Classics Season opens with Ron Hutchinson's 1984 drama. Tony Doyle's *RUC detective grills Rufus Sewell*, caught with explosives. Stephen Daldry directs.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm ♿

◪ **MACBETH** Mark Rylance's totally strange production with himself as king. Talk about weird sisters, weird, everything. Jane Horrocks plays the Queen
Greenwich Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-*858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat*, 2.30pm ♿

☐ **SIXTH BRITISH FESTIVAL OF VISUAL THEATRE**. Astonishingly diverse body of work, British and foreign: drama, cabaret, puppet theatre, *by companies performing for three* days at most
BAC, Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Until Oct 29 ♿

☐ ***TAKING SIDES*** *Enthralling drama* by Ronald Harwood, based on the *investigations of Furtwangler's alleged* Nazi sympathies. Superb performance by Daniel Massey as the conductor with Michael Pennington as his philistine accuser
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, WC2 (0171-369 1747). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

◪ **THREE TALL WOMEN** Maggie Smith returns, this time with Sara Kestelman and Samantha Bond, in Edward Albee's fascinating play about the adoptive mother who withered his *childhood. Anthony Page directs*
Wyndhams, Charing Cross Road, WC2 *(0171-369 1736)*. Tue-Sat, *8pm*, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **ASSASSINS** (15): Cat and mouse games between two contract killers. Reasonable action thriller, with Sylvester Stallone, Antonio Banderas and *Julianne Moore*. Director, Richard Donner
MGMs: Fulham Road *(0171-370 2636)* **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

LAND AND FREEDOM (15): Ken Loach's powerful Spanish Civil War drama, with Ian Hart and Rosana Pastor
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon West End** *(0171-369 1722)* **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Richmond** *(0181-332 0030)* ***Ritzy*** *(0171-737 2121)* **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520)

MY FAMILY (14): Handsome but shallow saga of a Mexican family in Los Angeles, with Jimmy Smits and Esai Morales. Director, Gregory Nava
MGM Trocadero ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** ♿ (0171-437 1234) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE NET** (12): New technology, but *enjoyable old tricks, with Sandra Bullock* as a computer expert in peril. Director Irwin Winkler
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

POCAHONTAS (U): Strangely dull slice of American history, a backward step for Disney cartoons after *Aladdin* and *The Lion King*. With the voices of Mel Gibson and Irene Bedard
Odeon Leicester Sq (01426 915683)

CURRENT

◆ **APOLLO 13** (PG): The near-fatal moon mission of 1970. Splendid images, but conventional drama. With Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon and Ed Harris
Clapham Picture House *(0171-498 3323)* **Empire** ♿ (0990 888990) **MGMs: Baker St** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Rd** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914 098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

BLUE JUICE (15): Breezy British romp with eccentric touches set among the Cornish surfing community. With Sean Pertwee, Catherine Zeta Jones
Odeon Mezzanine ♿ (01426 915683)

◆ **BRAVEHEART** (15): *Overly blood-*thirsty epic with Mel Gibson as the 13th *century Scottish rebel William Wallace*
Empire (0171-437 1234) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** ♿ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)

◆ **CARRINGTON** (18): Stumbling account of an odd Bloomsbury romance, dominated by Jonathan Pryce's Lytton Strachey. With Emma Thompson as the painter Dora Carrington
Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) **Gate** ♿ *(0171-727 4043)* ***MGM Fulham Road*** ♿ (0171-370 2636) **Renoir** (0171-837 *8402)* ***Ritzy*** *(0171-737 2121)* **Screen/Hill** ♿ (0171-435 3366)

DOLORES CLAIBORNE *(18)*: Powerful Stephen King adaptation, with *Kathy Bates as the wife and mother* twice accused of murder. With Jennifer Jason Leigh. Director, Taylor Hackford
Ritzy (0171-737 2121) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **FORGET PARIS** (12): Can Billy Crystal and Debra Winger make their love affair stick? Do we care? A bumpy romantic comedy
MGMs: Baker St (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** *(01426 914666)* **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** *(01426 915574)* **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Watermans** (0181-568 1176)

FUNNY BONES (15): Comedy and tears with a showbusiness family. Over-*ambitious film from Peter Hear My* Song Chelsom, with an eye-grabbing turn from Lee Evans. With Oliver Platt, Jerry Lewis and Leslie Caron
Barbican ♿ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture** (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) ***Kensington*** *(01426 914666)* **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Ritzy** (0171-*737 2121)* **Warner** ♿ *(0171-437 4343)*

◆ **THE USUAL SUSPECTS** (18): Complex, riveting thriller about the *wages of crime from Bryan Singer. A strong cast includes Kevin Pacey*, Stephen Baldwin and Gabriel Byrne
Gate ♿ (0171-727 4043) **MGMs: Fulham Road** ♿ (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343) ***Watermans*** *(0181-568 1176)*

Riding on the crest of no nave

BARRY GREENWOOD

Fortified by free Coke, choristers of Carlisle's Cathedral of the Holy and Undivided Trinity get ready for the Border Cathedrals Festival

For many successful years, the choristers of Carlisle have been doing more with less. **Hilary Finch** reports

The Archdeacon of Carlisle, a rotund, twinkling figure, delights in taking the unsuspecting visitor aside, and pointing out a secret 14th-century roof boss, hidden under the organ screen and depicting the Coronation of the Virgin Mary. Carlisle's Priory of St Mary (now the Cathedral of the Holy and Undivided Trinity) has never quite forgotten its dissolution in 1540, or that Cromwell's men knocked down the greater part of its Norman nave in the Civil War.

But Carlisle is not only a cathedral without a nave: it also sings its six choral evensongs a week without a choirschool. When the Border Cathedrals Festival opens on Friday, Carlisle will have to cram its audience into the presbytery and the aisles, and its visiting choristers, from Newcastle Cathedral and St Mary's Edinburgh, into private homes for their bed and breakfast.

The statutes of 1545 provided for six choristers: "Boys of tender age, and with sonorous voices, and apt at chanting." Carlisle's baker's dozen of 1995 fulfil all those conditions but, since the choir school closed in 1935, they have no building to call their own. Instead, the choristers are drawn from 15 city schools. The Dean and Chapter pays a token £150 a year to each chorister's parents. The boys themselves receive pocket money ranging from 10p a service for a probationer to 50p for a head chorister. Deprived of the weapon of handing out lines in school for bad behaviour, the powers-that-be simply go straight to the boys' pockets, knocking off, say, 30p for talking in service, 50p for roughing someone up in choir practice.

Jeremy Suter, Master of Music, is proud of the fact that no boy, no matter what his social background, is denied the opportunity to sing in the choir, and perhaps even to benefit from a grant from the Friends of Cathedral Music which, so far, enables one chorister per term to have free instrumental lessons. But no girls? "The question", Suter says, "has not been a pressing one here." Only one city school, out of the 25 he visits every October with his recruitment video and a pocketful of voice tests, has refused him entry because the choir does not take girls.

In explanation, Suter quotes the well-rehearsed arguments about integration of voice timbres and differing maturity rates: "When conditions are right, we may well have a separate girls' choir."

One incentive to keep the troops all male is that, working outside the choir school system, Suter is free to encourage the boys to stay on in the choir after their voices break. "Even if they can't contribute much vocally for a while, they can still be learning. And we'll reap the rewards later on, when they become lay clerks and fill the back row."

YOUNG AT art

Henry Stapleton, the Dean, enjoys travelling the length and breadth of the country pointing out, in lecture and article, that, according to recent research, the Church trawls only 7 per cent of the population in recruiting for cathedral choirs. "Should a cathedral choir exist only for those who can afford the fees? Of course, there are scholarships. But we recruit from a far larger pool of potential," he says. Carlisle's head chorister could not read a note when he joined; now he could win an Oxbridge choral scholarship if he wanted it.

In voice trials, Suter simply looks for the willingness to "learn quickly and to experiment with the voice. I would be pleasantly surprised if a boy joined already able to read music. Usually they'll have done very little singing: the majority of schools don't have choirs."

The daily routine tests both the boys' tenacity and the parents' commitment. Two boys have to be driven in from as far away as Barrow and Penrith: most rush in to the pre-evensong rehearsal as soon as school is out, flying into the cathedral refectory for their free Coke and cake.

Then into the vestry songroom. Clothes hangers, ruffs and *Sega* magazines fly as spearmint-green cassocks are pulled over a motley of school uniforms and loud sweatshirts. Today it's Thomas Tomkin's *Almighty God, the fountain of all Wisdom*. Since Suter came to Carlisle four years ago, he has furled cathedral music back at least 300 years. Polyphonic Tudor music — Morley, Gibbons, Palestrina, Victoria — is quite a challenge in a snatched half-hour before evensong. "Our repertoire does have to be smaller, of course," Suter says. "We repeat settings of the canticles more frequently. But with Tudor music, the boys love the challenge of having to *read* the notes, because every phrase is slightly different. They appreciate the fact that they are being treated as professionals."

It's a case of rapid reading and rapid repartee. A descending scale to "Ra-vi-o-li and spa-ghe-tti". A rebuke to an over-dark Cumbrian vowel: "aind" for "and", or "bert" for "but". Christmas-time tends to yield the bonus of "We shall see him, Bert in heaven . . ." The lads are urged to narrow their descending semitones to microtones. That's something they will certainly have to do in a new atonal piece called *Angel Heart*, written for them by the young Scottish composer Edward Rushton. "I don't know what they'll make of that," Suter says. "The harp accompaniment is independent, and none of the boys has perfect pitch!"

● *The Border Cathedrals Festival takes places from Friday to Sunday, and focuses on the music of Purcell and Tippett. For programmes and tickets, telephone 01228 48151*

● *Further information about the choir from The Master of Music, 6 The Abbey, Carlisle CA3 8TZ (01228 26646)*

ENTERTAINMENTS

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OPERA 1

Amsterdam is dazzled by every trick in the book in a new staging of Schoenberg's *Moses und Aron*

OPERA 2

Otello comes to the Met, along with a revolutionary new way of allowing the audience to follow the text in private

THE TIMES
ARTS

MUSIC 1

Not a note is left unturned as Kurt Sanderling and the Philharmonia play Beethoven piano concertos

MUSIC 2

Witty caricature from the actor Sam West saves the day in a Free Trade Hall performance of Walton's *Façade*

OPERA: Schoenberg's *Moses und Aron* dazzles in Amsterdam; opening night at the New York Met

So this is what the promised land looks like

First, the bad news. The one depressing thing about the Netherlands Opera's astounding production of one of the defining artworks of our century is the realisation that it could not happen here. There isn't the money for either the necessary rehearsal or the staging itself, and I fear there is no longer the audience. Thirty years ago there were both: Peter Hall's lavish 1965 production of Schoenberg's *Moses und Aron* at Covent Garden, conducted by Georg Solti, played for two seasons.

There are both money and audiences in The Netherlands: one can only imagine what this *Moses* at the Amsterdam Muziektheater must have cost, but the political will is there, the subsidy is there, and so is an inquiring audience eager for tickets costing less than half those at Covent Garden. You could say that Netherlands Opera services a constituency roughly comparable to that of Scottish Opera, whose very existence is even now hanging in the balance. What has happened to these islands in the past 15 years?

The rest of the news is good. Unstinting praise first to Winfried Maczewski's chorus, 109 strong, who not only sang with total unanimity, but made musical sense of their contribution as well, their carefully controlled internal balance revealing Schoenberg's thought processes with blinding clarity. Add a children's chorus, 22 members of the National Ballet and a horde of extras, and you had a cast of thousands, marshalled with the know-how of a D.W. Griffith by the producer, Peter Stein. The complex movement of masses, whether in carefully controlled disorder or *Chorus Line* precision, was jaw-droppingly impressive.

Otherwise, Stein just did the piece, in spare, marble-framed abstract decor by Karl-Ernst Herrmann and contemporary costumes by Moidele Bickel. All right, 12 Tribal Chieftains didn't gallop in on horseback to join the worship of the Golden Calf, but four did. There was a lovely black cow, whose sacrifice was just sufficiently discreet to prevent animal-lovers walking out in protest, and four naked virgins had their throats slit, which was actually rather disgusting. It's meant to be. Practically everyone got their kit off in the orgy and mollocked about with all the abandon of one of Hieronymus Bosch's less wholesome canvases. The only drawback was that, when Moses returned they had to scrabble round frantically for their undies, a bit like the aftermath of a police raid on a bordello. Even a staid Dutch audience had to chuckle.

> ‘Stein used every theatrical device at his disposal’

More seriously, Stein used every theatrical device at his disposal to realise Schoenberg's vision: the Burning Bush blazed, its brightness varying with the intensity of God's word, and a double revolve made possible the composer's enigmatic stage direction for Moses and Aron approaching their flock together but at different speeds.

And Stein helped to create one trail-blazing performance. Chris Merritt has hitherto been known for heroic singing in Rossini's tenor roles and a somewhat stolid stage manner. His Aron showed an artist transformed: relaxed and expressive body language, highly mobile features, a sense of irony, all used to present the sweet voice of reason. Since David Pittman-Jennings's Moses seemed tetchy rather than visionary, the balance of the piece was decisively shifted.

The playing of the Concertgebouw Orchestra under Pierre Boulez was highly disciplined and of pellucid beauty. Was it a touch too analytical? The score can, maybe should, sound a little more late-romantic — it did under Solti. But the magnificent chorus guaranteed stunning musical impact. No, it couldn't happen here, but Amsterdam is no longer very far away. The production runs until October 28.

RODNEY MILNES

"An artist transformed": Chris Merritt steals the show as Aron in Schoenberg's masterpiece

LONDON CONCERTS

Savouring a feast of Beethoven

Not an anniversary in sight: yet all ears seem to be tuned to Beethoven at the moment. As Simon Rattle unfolds his symphonies, Alfred Brendel completes his survey of the piano sonatas and Stephen Kovasevic starts his, so Andras Schiff turns to the piano concertos. But they are all over in two evenings; and it certainly took a strong stomach at the Festival Hall on Saturday to digest the Second, Third and Fourth in succession.

I should certainly have preferred to concentrate on one at a time, especially in performances as searching and demanding — both of the music and of the audience — as those worked through by Schiff and **Kurt Sanderling** with the ***Philharmonia Orchestra***. Not a note was left unturned. The Second Concerto was the first that Beethoven wrote, and the excited intensification of every expressive opportunity in his new fortepiano, as described by his pupil Carl Czerny, was given new meaning in the fingers of Schiff.

The opening sense of *brio* sparkled out of pacing steady enough to set into relief the brilliance in tone-colour and articulation; and the counterpoint of voices in the cadenza was almost exaggerated in its debate. In that near-cadenza of exploration near the end of the second movement, Schiff let us hear the first, early presages of the last symphony of all, as the fingers seemed to search for the space between sound and silence itself, against hushed orchestral playing.

Schiff's feet are as fascinating to watch as his fingers. Again, like Beethoven himself, he seemed to be testing the pedal and its effects to produce an ever-shifting tone-palette and, in rapid touch pedalling, a special type of singing tone. This came into its own in the slow movement of the Third Concerto, where Schiff and Sanderling conspired to give one of the few performances which had a real understanding of the power of the slow, silent pulse beating behind its shifting reverberations.

At least there was an interval in which to recover before the great and ever-enigmatic Fourth Concerto. The First and Fifth are paired together tonight: brace yourself.

The following evening at the Barbican saw an exhilarating performance of the Ninth Symphony by the **London Symphony Orchestra and Chorus** conducted by ***Michael Tilson Thomas***. Tilson Thomas does not hang about in this work. Fierce with aerobic energy, taut and bright of chord, ever-propulsive of melody, his account of the Ninth is three movements of intense expectation leading, bursting almost, to its realisation and apotheosis in the human voice. This is an exciting and musically effective approach. His pacing sorely tests the soloists, though, and the less than perfectly cast team of Michele Crider, Maria Popescu, Anthony Rolfe Johnson and Peter Rose tended to tangle.

If there are times when Beethoven's answer to Schiller's *Ode to Joy* seems just too absolute, too perfect of cadence, and his vision too mighty to assimilate, there is always Charles Ives's *The Unanswered Question*. This transcendentalist work for off-stage strings, distant trumpet and just three woodwind players on stage was most imaginatively programmed with the Beethoven. In between the two, equally movingly, came Schoenberg's *A Survivor from Warsaw*, with Robert Tear declaiming Schoenberg's own searing text against a harsh, white light of orchestral playing.

HILARY FINCH

Fine debut for your eyes only

Otello
Metropolitan Opera,
New York

James Levine, the artistic director of the Metropolitan Opera in New York, has said on more than one occasion that supertitles would be introduced at the Met "over my dead body". On the opening night of the new season, Levine's body, apparently still in good health, was in the pit conducting a performance of Verdi's *Otello* that featured the debut of a unique new titling system which displays the translated text of the opera on individual screens mounted in front of the audience members.

Called Met Titles, the $2.7 million system consists of a series of eight-by-two-inch screens, similar to those used in automatic banking machines, which are mounted on railings on the backs of the seats. The vacuum-fluorescent technology used to illuminate the text is filtered, so that the screens of adjacent seats appear to be completely dark. Members of the audience who do not wish to view the titles can turn their screens off.

Best bet: Renée Fleming and Placido Domingo

The Met's experiment is a brilliant success. Leaving the proscenium arch uncluttered with projections and giving the opera-goer the option to eschew the titles are great advantages over ordinary supertitles, which would never have worked in the Met, with its high proscenium and steeply raked balconies. While some purists disdainfully chose not to use the system on the opening night, when the Met presents *The Queen of Spades* and *The Makropulos Case* later in the season one suspects all the screens in the house will be glowing.

For the system's debut, the Met has revived a taut, powerful production created last year by Elijah Moshinsky in honour of Placido Domingo's twenty-fifth season with the company. Michael Yeargan's sets are lavish, with dark gleams of blood-red marble and faded gilt.

Domingo proved yet again that he is the leading exponent of the role of Otello, even though he lacks the full measure of vocal power for some key moments of the drama. Renée Fleming is the Met's best Desdemona since the young Kiri Te Kanawa debuted in the role more than twenty years ago: her farewell scene with Emilia was electrifying.

James Morris was a dry, disappointing Iago, playing the evil captain with broad buffoonery that at times resembled a bad Faust. Levine, whose transformation into Mr Pickwick is now complete, conducted with powerful, fluid grace.

JAMIE JAMES

MANCHESTER CONCERTS: Composers' forum; an eccentric *Façade*

Rewarding sound at the workshop

"IF YOU write music like this, you're your own worst enemy," said Martyn Brabbins to Jeremy Cull. "I think we should take out all the string parts," suggested John Casken in an effort to cut through the dense texture in the central section of Cull's Piano Concerto. So, with the expert and ever-patient Peter Lawson at the piano, they tried it that way and then tried it again with the lower strings restored but with the violins still omitted.

It was probably not a comfortable experience for the composer. But he had at least heard his work performed, and he had no doubt understood more about the risks involved in excessive complexity. It was unfortunate for him, perhaps, but rewarding for the small audience in Studio 7 in New Broadcasting House that the other work in this session of the **Manchester Composers' Platform** was an accomplished, excitingly coloured and dramatically structured score called *Pinari* by Serra Miyeun Hwang.

Whether or not the Hallé Orchestra, which sight-read it brilliantly under Brabbins's direction, will ever play *Pinari* again, the BBC Philharmonic will almost certainly adopt it for one of its programmes.

Trevor Green, BBC head of music in Manchester, whose inspiration the Platform was, is also seriously considering commissioning a new score from Marc Yates, one of the discoveries of the event. More will also undoubtedly be heard of Guy Newbury, whose *Momentanea* proved to be so intriguingly detailed and so very playable in one of the BBC Philharmonic sessions.

Thomas Armstrong met some opposition from the same orchestra for his scoring in his *Squaring Up*. But, though the composer agreed that his piece was "very hard" and confessed that he didn't like the second half anyway, it did gather a compelling momentum, for all its metrical complexity.

Even the very frank session with the Lindsay Quartet, in which one composer was told that it would take 40 hours to rehearse his piece at all adequately, produced something encouraging in Alan Charlton's String Quartet No 1.

Certainly, it pleased John Casken, chairman of the panel, which had selected 22 scores from the 150 submitted and which was then on hand to offer its advice for the four days of workshops and open rehearsals. To do this without choosing one dud was an achievement second only to getting so many Manchester institutions — including the Royal Northern College of Music and the Norther Chamber Orchestra as well as the Hallé, the Lindsays and the BBC — to work together. And they are going to do it again in three years' time.

ECCENTRICITY is authenticity where *Façade* is concerned. There was a perceptible giggle in the Free Trade Hall when Susana Walton made her entry in a red dress, long pink boa and red hat with black trimmings.

What Lady Walton lacks in comparison with Edith Sitwell is not presence but the Bloomsbury accent and the social reverberations that go with it. Sam West, who shared the speaking role on this occasion, largely made up for that with some discreetly witty caricature. Neither of them, unfortunately, made consistently good use of the mikes, which meant that many of the words got lost, but both of them were admirably in time and firmly united in ensemble with **Martyn Brabbins** and the stylish **Hallé Orchestra** instrumentalists.

At the other end of a peculiarly top-heavy programme was Debussy's *Iberia*, which promised to be uncommonly effective. But the brilliant colouring and clarity in detail which were so illuminating in *Par les Rues et par les chemins* are not the qualities required for *Les Parfums de la nuit*. *Le Matin d'un jour de fête* was sensitively done, however.

Whatever it was that persuaded half the regular Hallé audience to avoid this concert, it cannot have been the prospect of hearing Julian Lloyd Webber in Tchaikovsky's *Rococo Variations*. A slightly over-deliberate performance, Webber's account was no less pleasingly affectionate an interpretation for that and no less impressively executed.

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WILDLIFE ON LESBOS

Compared with many Greek resorts Lesbos is still relatively unspoilt and eight days studying the wildflowers of this green and mountainous island, on a holiday for two people worth £1,310, is today's prize in our great Around the World in 80 Days competition.

Lesbos, birthplace of Sappho, has superb wetlands and saltpans around Skala Kalloni. There are more than 400 species of flora including 46 orchids.

The winner will have the benefit of being accompanied on the tour by Dr Keith Allen, a senior lecturer in the department of botany at Bristol University and an experienced guide.

There will be an opportunity to explore by coach and on foot, visiting the attractive town of Agiassos, the starting point for walks to the most spectacular of the island's upland woodland plants.

Wetland plants and those along the coast will be studied and inland there are excursions to the olive groves, scrub and low lying woodland. There may also be a visit to the delightful town of Molyvos with its cobbled streets and hillside castle.

Athough this is primarily a wildflower tour, the birds are spectacular. In May this year, 140 species were seen, including black and white storks, glossy ibis, spoonbill, large white egret and the rare Kruper's nuthatch.

DEPARTURE DATE

May 2-9, 1996.

Prices are from £589, down from £655, a reduction of £66, per person and includes return flights from London or Manchester to Lesbos, twinshare accommodation with private facilities in the two-star Hotel Passiface, Skala Kalloni, half-board, transfers, botanical excusions and an expert guide.

To book the wildflower holiday and claim your 10 per cent discount, phone the brochure hotline: 01369 70 77 11. Please allow 14 days for delivery of your brochure.

The winner of our holiday, Impressions of St Petersburg, is Mr Ian McRae of Nottingham.

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1 How many species of bird were spotted on Lesbos this year?

2 Where are the Lesbos saltpans located?

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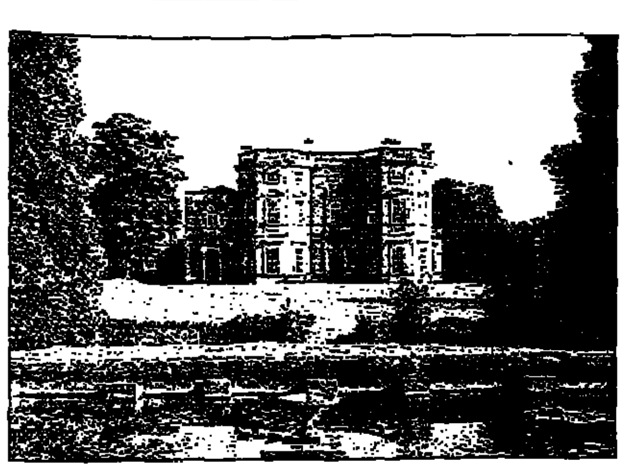


Bourton Hall: in the heart of Warwickshire

IN THE MARKET

BOURTON Hall, a Grade II listed mansion with self-contained offices in the heart of Warwickshire, is for sale at £1 million through Knight Frank & Rutley.

The mansion is at present headquarters for Ingersoll Engineers, which is rationalising its office space while remaining within the region. It is 30 miles from Birmingham airport and close to Rugby and Coventry. With the M45 only two miles away, Bourton Hall is well located for companies with offices throughout Britain.

The property is offered either as a whole or in lots: the hall, built in 1791, has 12,225sq ft of accommodation together with a lecture wing, and is priced at £720,000: the former stable block has 5,196sq ft of space, and will cost £270,000. There is further land included in the 16-acre property, priced at £10,000.

☐ ENGLISH Partnerships has appointed THI to lead a multimillion-pound leisure development consisting of retail units, a hotel and visitor attractions at the agency's flagship regeneration project at Chatham Maritime, in north Kent.

The project, on a 15.5-acre site, will include a multiscreen cinema with seating for 2,400, and is located in a waterside setting alongside a planned 600-berth marina. The project complements the £250 million already invested in the commercial and residential elements of Chatham Maritime by the public and private sectors. About £1 billion is expected to be invested by the private sector eventually.

London is the top for business

Christopher Warman on the City's pre-eminence

An annual survey of directors from 500 leading European companies has voted London Europe's best city for business for the fifth consecutive year. There is no change in the order of the first five, with London followed by Paris, Frankfurt, Brussels and Amsterdam, according to the survey *The European Cities Monitor 1995*, published by the international property firm Healey & Baker.

London's position has strengthened in the last year. As well as ranking top as a general business location, its financial centre, the City, drew the support of 49 per cent of the businessmen as the financial hub of Europe, compared with 35 per cent who awarded Frankfurt that distinction — a 5 per cent shift in London's favour since 1994.

There were only two perceived weaknesses: pollution and a poorer quality of life compared with other European cities.

Paul Orchard-Lisle, senior partner at Healey & Baker, said that there had been speculation that London was being overtaken by other European centres. "Nothing could be further from the truth. The survey shows that businessmen all over Europe rate London higher than their own centres. All the indications are that London is in the ascendant and set to benefit from closer economic ties within Europe."

London scores well on the cost and availability of staff (first) and value-for-money office space (fifth), and is strongest on communication factors.

Glasgow (eighteenth) and Manchester (thirteenth) are the only other British cities to be ranked in the top 30, but both have slipped since last year. Dublin, included in the survey for the first time, comes in at fourteenth, and is praised for its cost advantages. The city is seen to have the best government-created climate for business in Europe, and Healey & Baker says that there is little doubt that the peace process in Ireland has helped to create opportunities for economic growth.

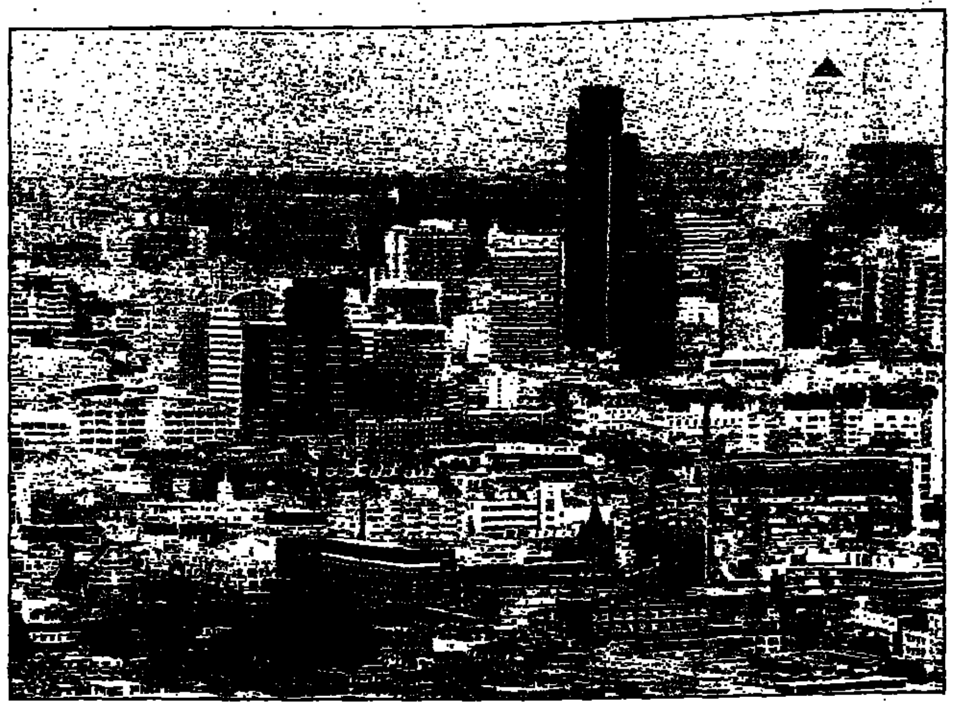
Cities with improved standing include Barcelona, Milan and Madrid, which may reflect the increasing importance of cost factors, especially staff costs.

In its 1995 report on property investment, Healey & Baker shows that the scars of the recession across Europe are slow to heal. The pattern of growth is broadly in line with trends in the economy at large, with those countries which saw the earliest economic recovery also showing the earliest signs of rental growth. Denmark has performed strongly, and there has been an upturn in Austria, Ireland and Sweden as well as the United Kingdom.

The worst areas in the past year have been France, Germany and Italy. Office property in these countries must take much of the blame, says Healey & Baker, although, particularly in Germany, retail rents have also declined.

Property demand and performance have differed considerably by sector as well as by location. Retail rents have been flat while the industrial sector has seen slight growth. Offices remain the weakest part of the market, although their performance is up on last year, when rents fell by nearly 9 per cent compared with 3.8 per cent this year.

In the main markets, rents have now generally stabilised and activity has improved as occupiers take advantage of lower rents in those modern properties still available. As a result, vacancy rates have fallen, and this has encouraged a cautious upturn in investor interest in the office market. Strong interest continues in London, but Paris and Brussels are also now on the shopping list of some investors.



The City: 49 per cent of businessmen saw it as the financial centre of Europe

Business investment is likely to play an increasingly important role in the continuing upturn in Europe's economy. Firms will want to boost productivity and raise capacity, and this will benefit the prime end of the business space market. Combined with a lack of development activity in many large European space markets, this should bring pressure for rental growth in the next 12 months.

Healey & Baker suggests that London, Paris and Brussels have clear potential for rental growth, as do Lisbon, Copenhagen, cities in The Netherlands and possibly some German cities such as Hamburg and Frankfurt. Low cost space may also boost performances in some countries, possibly including Italy, the UK, Spain, the Czech Republic and Hungary.

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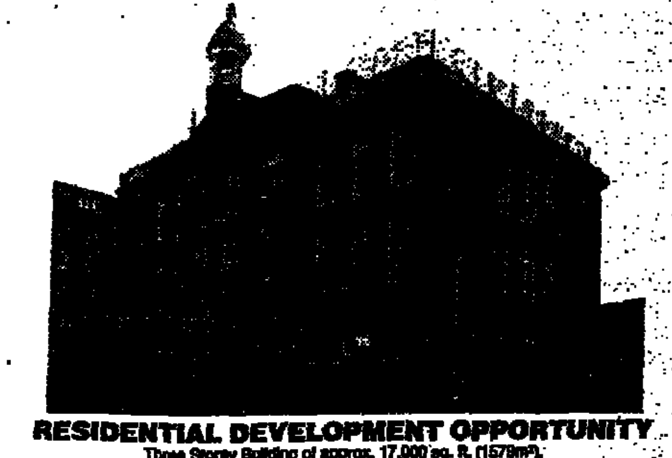

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career moves

SNR PA PR - HEALTHCARE
£18,000

A snr sec with some form of S/H is needed for top consultancy working for a director in Healthcare. There will be tons of client contact and *organising of press* conferences, sending out releases, doing journo ring rounds and getting involved in research. Ideally you'll have *some PR or Healthcare exp.*

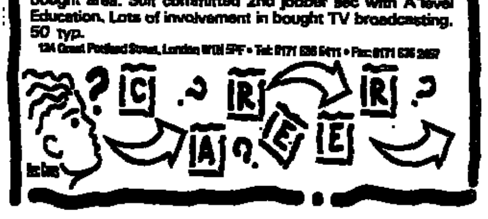
GERMAN SPEAKING SEC
£15,000

Brilliant opportunity for a bright 2nd jobber sec to use their German all the time in this small music publishers - liaise with offices in Frankfurt and Vienna and give full back up to the MD plus 2 other directors. *Really friendly team that all* pull together. S/H essential.

TV BOUGHT SEC,
£13,500 - 6 MONTH CONTRACT

Interesting sec. position in this large TV Company based in bought area. Suit committed 2nd jobber sec with A'level Education. Lots of involvement in bought TV broadcasting. 50 typ.

124 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5PF • Tel: 0171 636 6411 • Fax: 0171 636 2657



GROSVENOR

TV SALES & DISTRIBUTION
C£20,000

Organised PA to work for Head of Sales in busy international department, s/h (80+wpm), typing + W4Ws ess. Involved, busy role in a hectic, fun environment. Candidates must be prepared to work long hours when necessary. Previous media experience preferred.

DIAMONDS
c£17,000

Small, international Co in Chelsea *is looking for a PA to work* for Director. Ability to organise office/admin systems, work as part of a team and be rewarded for your efforts (ambitious candidates encouraged). W4Ws + 55+wpm typing.

GROSVENOR BUREAU
0171 499 6566
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

EURO STARS

Analysts' Assistants required to support a dynamic young team within a leading investment bank. Using your French you will be totally involved in research projects, providing full admin support, creating presentations, high levels of liaison. Must be pc literate and have strong sec skills.

Italian Investment Banker needs a bright articulate assistant to deal exclusively with S. Europe. *Using* Italian all the time; high levels of client liaison, translations, masses of organising *and full admin* support. Must be used to working to tight deadlines. A *fun and challenging role. Strong sec skills essential.*

Call Emily Aldrich on 0171 588 8999

Aldrich & Co Limited
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Maine - Tucker
Recruitment Consultants

DOCKLANDS - LEGAL
HOLD THE FRONT PAGE...
C£17,500 + MED + SUB
CANTEEN + GYM

...because this respected newspaper needs an experienced legal secretary (min 55wpm) to work in their luxury offices. You'll need to be personable for lots of client contact, have initiative for admin work and generally have your wits about you for a very involved role. If you have some legal experience, and you want a legal position in an exceptional company, please call.

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 0171 734 7341

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST SOLICITORS EC1

First class Receptionist required by City law firm. Apart from having excellent communication skills and high standards of presentation, you must be flexible and proactive in order to succeed in this demanding professional practice. Previous *experience in a similar environment* essential, plus PC skills.

Hours: 2.00pm to 6.30pm
Salary: £10,000 - £11,000 plus excellent bens.

For further information please contact the Personnel Department on 0171-638 3688 or send your CV to **Kennedys**, Longbow House, 14-20 Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4TY.

Strictly no agencies please.

£20,000 + Full Banking Benefits

Bright flexible PA wanted to provide full secretarial and administrative support to the legal management team of this major City bank. Lots of involvement if you have good S/h and W4W.

Call 0171 493 7001

SECRETARIES PLUS
The Secretarial Consultants

AREA MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATOR

[illegible]

[illegible], London

Acting as ambassador to the Area Manager, you will be responsible for organising and minuting senior level meetings, collating and analysing performance monitoring *information*, co-ordinating Area communications and organising Area training.

Considerable contact with tenants, both in person, over the phone and in writing will be involved, for which first class communication skills and letter writing ability will be essential. *Capable of working on your own initiative* you will have the tact and diplomacy to tackle contentious and complex issues appropriately as well as the ability to work under often considerable pressure.

This is a demanding, challenging and *varied role for an experienced* senior administrator or PA of the highest calibre and calls for a high level of computer literacy including knowledge of spreadsheets, the ability to develop a range of *monitoring techniques as well as the* capability of measuring, recording and presenting information.

For further details and an *application pack* send a POSTCARD ONLY to: The Personnel Dept., Notting Hill Housing Trust, 26 Paddenswick Road, London W6 0UB. Please quote ref: HMK001/T. Closing Date: 27th October 1995.

NOTTING HILL HOUSING TRUST

equal opps · pension scheme · no smoking · PROVIDING AFFORDABLE RENTED HOMES FOR PEOPLE IN HOUSING NEED

PA/OFFICE MANAGER

Arabella Lennox-Boyd Landscape Design requires Personal Assistant/Office Manager for small, busy office. Good salary. Computer skills necessary. Near Pimlico Tube station.

Please Reply to: Box No 0531

MONEY MATTERS - SW1!
£22,000 + BENS

Respected City Executive turned Entrepreneur reqs stylish & socially aware PA with great charm & efficiency to handle major projects with panache. Stunning offices & plenty of involvement. S/H (min 80wpm), MSW4W & Excel. Age 28-36ish

Norma Skemp Recruitment
0171 222 5091

Tired of swimming around?

If you're looking for fresh waters, give us a call. We have a great selection of temporary and permanent secretarial positions in TV, Films, Arts, Music & Publishing just waiting to be explored

JUDY FISHER
ASSOCIATES
0171 437 2277
Recruitment Consultants

CHAIRMAN'S P.A
@ £25,000

A true PA role! Assist charasmatic Chairman of leading Plc. *Shorthand essential for minimal secretarial duties.* Tremendous amount of organising. Bags of charm & common sense a must!

Ring Charlotte 0171 589 1866.
St James's Consultancy.

RECEPTIONIST/
ADMINISTRATOR

Part-Time.

We are a 30 strong business, based near the British Museum. We're disappointed with temps and want an experienced, career-minded person who *happens not to want to work* full-time. We'd prefer 10.00 to 4.00.

Please Reply to:
Box No 0672

Audio Secretary

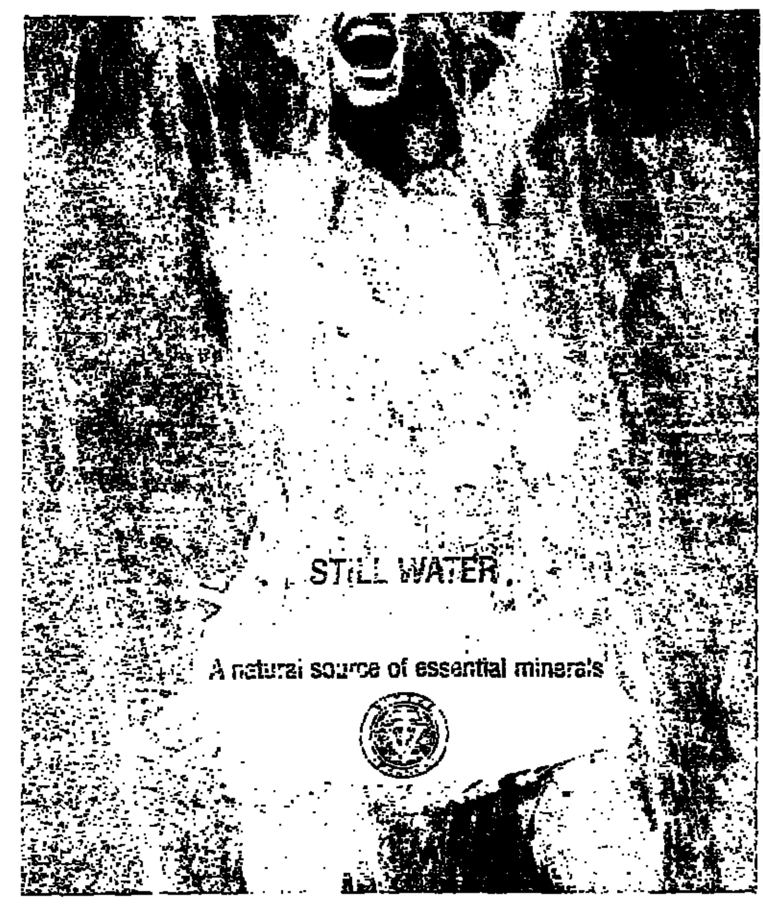
Friendly busy Holborn office requires intelligent secretary for audio typing, filing, general office duties. WP5.1 or Word 6 essential. Training on other computer applications will be given. Min 1 year office experience desirable.

Please send handwritten application giving current salary + CV to: Ms Ilana Bouskila, SC Financial Services Ltd, Fairfax House, Fulwood Place, Gray's Inn, London WC1V 6UB

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 0171 481 9994

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX:
0171 481 9313



SECRETARY/OFFICE MANAGER

Growing software Computer Co. in W11. Blue chip clients. Highest calibre personnel. Skills to include book keeping PAYE VAT. Experience, enthusiasm, initiative. Will be assisted by junior.

Letter and CV's to Ingrid: KBW Ltd, 6 Walmer Courtyard, London W11 4EY.

PA/Secretary

Westminster **Circa £20,000**

Highly qualified PA/Secretary, excellent communication skills, presentation, good shorthand, required for major Industrial Group at prestigious HQ building. Senior position for Main Board level.

Send CV to Iolanda M. B. Costide 2-6, Catherine Place, London SW1E 6HF.

TEAM PLAYER

£25K package

This forward thinking international management consultancy requires a PA with at least 5 years' senior level director experience to provide high level secretarial and administrative support to partner and team of consultants. You must have proven organisational skills and thrive in a hectic environment. Your tasks will involve diary management, extensive travel arrangements, the tracking of proposals and the coordination of report production. The ability to work on own initiative and as a part of a team are also essential.

Your contribution will be appreciated and respected 100% as a much valued member of the team. Skills 90/60. Powerpoint and Excel useful. Please contact Claire or Amanda immediately on the number below.

0171-287 7788

All applicants are positively welcomed.

Angela Mortimer

TRADING FLOOR

£26,000 + package

An outstanding opportunity has arisen for a highly driven and self-motivated PA to join this world-leading investment Bank. You will be working exclusively for a highly dynamic Managing Director with far-reaching global responsibilities. A highly accomplished and talented individual, you will crave total business involvement on an international scale. It is essential that you are able to communicate effectively at all levels of the business spectrum and have a proven track record within banking. If you have the drive and determination to succeed at the very highest of levels and possess 60 wpm typing (shorthand useful), please call

0171-814 0800

Committed to equal opportunities

Angela Mortimer

QUALITY PA

up to £24,000 + Benefits

A Partner, specialising in media work, of a global leader in Executive Search requires the services of a professional PA to help and be part of a progressive drive into the year 2000. This stimulating role involves executing client projects, marketing and strategic sourcing. In addition to this, you will have the confidence and stamina to handle a multitude of tasks.

You will need to be a highly competent organiser, a team player, and be able to liaise with peoples at all levels. If you have the commitment, foresight and skills (60wpm) to play this demanding role and other similar roles please call (Ref 61).

0171-814 0800

Committed to equal opportunities

Angela Mortimer

MISON RECRUITMENT

SECRETARIAL LINGUISTS FOR MAJOR EUROPEAN BANK

£16,000-£20,000+m/s, stl, pen, paid O/t, 25 days hols+++

Join London's most cosmopolitan International Bank in superb City offices. Several outstanding positions available for confident first-class Intermediate and senior secretaries with previous international company exposure, excellent technical and linguistic skills. FRENCH, GERMAN or RUSSIAN always useful. All roles promise involvement, international liaison and the chance to use your initiative. Fabulous benefits apply. MS W4W, Excel preferably, shorthand useful for some positions. Immediate interviews - tel Monica.

MARKETING SECRETARY-DTP
c£18,000+EXCELLENT BENEFITS

Pro-active, self-motivated individual with solid secretarial experience, preferably with a financial background, required to support Marketing Director with preparation of marketing presentations, extensive liaison, up-keep of client database plus full secretarial support. Excellent systems experience (W4W, Excel and a graphics package) essential. Tel - [illegible].

SENIOR SHORTHAND PA/SECRETARY
£20,000 + FULL BANKING BENEFITS

This is a key role for a polished, articulate PA/Secretary with a mature, professional attitude. Based within the Equities department of this leading merchant bank the position demands board/senior level experience gained within the financial world. Endless list of duties includes extensive telephone liaison, complex travel arrangements, keeping busy diaries, etc. Minimum A level education, W4W and Excel. Tel-Jenny.

MAJOR BANKING CONTRACT TEMPS
- S/H - Audio - W4W
Powerpoint
Excel
Freelance Secretaries
Early & Late Appointments Available - Join us for Coffee & Croissants

Call Heather or Elizabeth 0171 583 4749

0171-583-5441

THE RITZ Professional PA

£19,000 + Exc Bens

This leading leisure company are seeking an experienced secretary to provide first class secretarial support to the Strategic Planning Director. The role involves, arranging travel and hospitality, European client liaison, and involvement in project work. 60 wpm typing, Word for Windows needed (Powerpoint or Freelance advantageous).

Call Jane on
0171 629 4343 or Fax CV on 0171 491 2872

RITZ RECRUITMENT

TV - Film - French!
14-16,500

Do these words appeal to you, are you outgoing but down to earth? Are you presently involved in a secretarial role within a sales environment in TV/Film and in need of a change? Would enjoy learning to speak French, travelling to Milan/Cannes etc. and working for one of the most exciting French owned film companies? Applicants: exp. on WP/W4W etc. along with relevant expertise & good organisational skills. Benefits incl. pension, monthly movie tickets & STL.

Junior Receptionist
12,000 neg

Large professional private laboratory needs your vivacious and enthusiastic personality along with at least 6 months healthcare experience. Join this friendly and upmarket company and enjoy working with private practices, consultants and patients. This is a superb opportunity for a pro-active candidate!

Call Tanya Berger NOW (0171) 499 7747 for imm. interview.

Lifeline
A Helping Hand in Recruitment

LONG TERM TEMPS!

You will earn **TOP RATES** working in **MAJOR COMPANIES** - plus enjoy the support of a professional, committed team. All you need are excellent skills (**W4W** and / or **POWERPOINT**, S/H a bonus) and a flexible approach. Phone **Darren Smyth** at **Tate Appointments** on **0171 408 0424 NOW!**

LITERARY FUN!
PA
C£17,000

Absorb yourself in the world of glossy novels and assist this delightful M.D. of a small West End Co in all aspects of his work. You must be an experienced Secretary (20s-30s), good Audio typing, personable and organised with an interest in the literary world to evolve a bright future.

JOYCE GUINESS PARTNERSHIP
0171 589 8807
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PARTNER'S PA £18,000+Bonus West End
Successful Headhunters close Piccadilly/Green Park need young, educated and presentable person with 65+wpm typing on 5.1 50% Admin in this job looking after IT/Finance/Banking specialist.

LEGAL IN OIL £18,000+benefits West End
Shorthand and Audio with Wordperfect for Windows while working for Head of Legal Dept of W1 OIL Co. *Varied load and responsibilities but chance to be* involved in very convivial environment.

Call 0171-287 2044/Fax 287 3717

Middleton Jeffers
RECRUITMENT LIMITED

TEMPORARY SECRETARIES NEEDED

£9.00 to £10per hour

At Aldrich & Co we need to recruit high calibre secretaries who are confident on the latest packages to work for our clients - major financial institutions and blue chip companies. You must have strong communication skills and a flexible attitude.

Call Kim St. John on 0171 588 8999

Aldrich & Co Limited
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Secretary To Director £[illegible]
Secretary To Marketing Manager [illegible]
Senior Receptionist £[illegible]

Our prestigious City based client is seeking outstanding candidates for a *range of positions.* Applicants must *have at least two years experience in similar roles* with blue chip companies. You should be able to demonstrate *organisational skills gained whilst working in other demanding* and fast moving environments as well as the ability to cope *with a heavy workload.*

For further information about these excellent opportunities to join a company *that leads the world in its market*, contact Cathy Cross on *0171* 353 7684.

MANPOWER
There's more for you

Maine - Tucker
Recruitment Consultants

BANKING AMBITIONS

£19,500 + MORT SUB + STL + GYM + MED + RESTAURANT + PENS

Join the high flyers by working for one of the City's most respected companies as a Sales Assistant. Basically you've had at least one years experience in *banking, and you're ready to take on a position* a step above secretarial. It's all go and you won't have a spare minute in the day to think about anything else, but your job. It's a real team environment so it's no good if you don't like working with people! If you expect a City company to be buzzing, successful and at the top of its field, then look no further. Apply if you are 22+, have banking experience (a little secretarial *for your own work)* and are a graduate.

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 0171 734 7341

BILINGUAL PA
£18,000

You and your boss against the world! Use your fluent written & spoken French in this one to one role. W4W's. Ideal for 35+.

Tel 0171 377 6777
Fax: 0171 377 5079.

Middleton Jeffers
RECRUITMENT LIMITED

SIMPLY THE BEST
C£15,000

Excellent opp. to assist at Chairman level, within dynamic consultancy where *your skills will be developed to full potential. 50 wpm. W4W.* 23-26 yrs.

VAL WADE REC CONS.
0171 437 3793.

BANK ON US!

CALLING ALL BANKING SECRETARIES

Are You a Casualty of a Take-Over? £15-£20K + Benefits

Turn your impending redundancy to your advantage by joining one of the leading Merchant Banks who will recognise your worth. If you are aged 20/35 and already have a minimum of 6 months *banking experience,* we have a number of vacancies in the following departments:- Personnel • Trading Floor • Corporate Finance • Corporate Services • Legal

You don't have to be a director to benefit from a merger. For more details on how to give your career a boost - Call Us Now!

PA OPPORTUNITY IN THE DOCKLANDS

£19K + Exceptional Banking Benefits Top Investment Bank

If you have an interest in current affairs, with particular emphasis on Eastern Europe - read on. This highly successful bank is looking for a senior level PA, preferably from a large, international organisation, *who is looking for a proactive role within a fast moving* environment. If you are interested, have working knowledge of Word for Windows & Excel and have a flexible attitude towards *overtime & weekend work - call for an immediate interview.*

HAVE YOU HEARD THAT THERE IS NO TEMPORARY WORK? THEN READ ON!

You can register with more than one temp agency. Pan European can offer you work 52 weeks a year if you can match the following criteria:

- Are you available immediately or in the very near future?
- Are you between 20-35 years of age?
- *Do you have 1 year's secretarial experience?*
- Do you have good SH/audio skills?
- Are you reliable and flexible?
- Are you well presented?
- Have you relevant experience of two of the following packages: Word for Windows, Amipro, WordPerfect for *Windows, Excel*

Late night registration for temp or permanent candidates until 9pm on Thurs, 26th October. Call now for an appointment.

PAN EUROPEAN
RECRUITMENT

Please call us on
0171-734 8484

MARKETING APPEAL
to £18,000

relish a stimulating environment? Join a high profile team & provide sec support at a senior level in a forward thinking City co where your intelligence and proactive approach will be highly valued & well rewarded. Age 24+.

Call Rachel on 0171 636 1493

BEAVERS
Personnel Recruitment Consultants

B.J. CRAWFORD'S

We're an 'absolutely fabulous' vibrant West End Secretarial Recruitment Agency looking for a hot shot consultant to join our team.

Specialising in PR, Marketing and Media we need someone who can deal with our blue chip clients. The ideal applicant will have either recruitment or estate agency experience or might be in a service industry.

Come and discuss it with Barbara over a glass of 'Belli'!
Call on 0171 935 9692.

Bright Spark!

to £18,500 + Overtime M/Sub, gym on Site...

Join a prestigious US Investment Bank and work for a dynamic electronic analyst and her assistant in the Equity Research area. You will be involved in all presentation work and weekly reports as well as co-ordinating a busy diary, travel arrangements and coping with hectic deadlines. If you have a flair for systems, a creative streak (MS word for *windows and excel ideal)* and enjoy a research element with involving secretarial duties this job will give you the chance to grow. Financial experience essential. Age: 25 - 40. Skills 55wpm/5 O'Levels/GCSEs. **Please call Annie Honstoun on 0171-390 7000 now!**

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Jump To it!

Age 26-35 Up to £22,000

Fabulous opportunity to work in an exhilarating and expanding company whose industry is relaxtion, enjoyment and fun. The joint *Managing Directors need an exceptional* PA to run their hectic business lives and chaotic office! Use your excellent commercial French and marketing experience when liaising with overseas clients and handling *specific projects. Fast accurate typing,* windows knowledge and senior level secretarial experience are essential. If you can offer all this and still have energy to move mountains, then call Luke Cutler now on 0171-434 4512.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

New Business Senior Secretary

£20,000-£25,000 + bonus

Small International Stockbrokers need a Senior Secretary for their newly formed Corporate Finance area. Working with the three *Executives you will be instrumental in setting* up the whole business area. You'll need to juggle everything from extensive travel to archiving, from project tracking to client liaison. It's all fast and new and a sense of humour *under pressure will help enormously.* A good City background should be complimented by confident Powerpoint, windows and Excel. Age 25-40, hours 8.30-5.00++. 25 days holiday.

Please call Vanessa Mitchell on 0171-390 7000

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

The Search Stops Here!

Age 24+to£24,000

Join this premier West End executive search organisation and work for a highly *successful senior consultant.* They need an intelligent, hard working person who can liaise at all levels with charm and diplomacy. This is a busy role with never a dull moment and will suit someone who likes to stay one step ahead, has fast typing (60wpm+) and who is socially poised. 'A' levels and a sound CV are a must. **To find out more call Chioma Oji on *0171-434 4512.***

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

PA

GATWICK £20,000

A renowned International Travel Marketing Company require a dedicated PA to support their Founder and Chairman.

Working from superb offices your tasks will be all that you would expect from a top PA role within a high profile organisation. In addition you will be required to undertake a variety of challenging project based tasks.

To make the most of this exciting opportunity you will be a confident and pro-active decision maker with first class *time management and communication skills.* You should have worked with International organisations and enjoy liaising and co-ordinating across the globe.

Skills 80/50, DTP experience. Own transport required. Age indicator 30 - 45.

Please telephone Karen Levine on 0171 390 7000 for further information

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

City Style

to £24,000

If you are looking for a position where you will be able to provide total support to a busy, demanding and yet charming City MD then this is it! He needs a first class PA who can run his office during his *frequent absences, who* can look after visiting clients, and who enjoys using their excellent secretarial skills for both business and personal work. There will also be some work for one other director. You should live in London and be familiar with the City environment. 100wpm shorthand *essential.* Age 25-45. **Please telephone Kate Hodson on 0171-390 7000.**

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Pacific Heights

£23,000 + banking bens Age 23-35

Pacific Rim Equity Sales division of top International Bank needs a Sales Assistant with first class secretarial and administrative skills to support their dynamic team. High energy levels and self motivation are key to meet the demands of this fast paced, pressurised environment. This is an outstanding career opportunity to develop new skills and work on a wide variety of challenging projects. Min 5 "O" levels incl English & Maths, banking experience essential, good skills (80/60) Word for Windows & Spreadsheet. **Please call Sonia Yusuf on 0171-434 4512.**

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Maine - Tucker
Recruitment Consultants

MEDIA MANIA

C£15,000

The enthusiasm, the excitement, the zeal...it's electrifying! *From the moment you walk through the doors of this* Central London advertising agency it's go,go,go! The ads they produce here are unforgettable, so if you are a lively *junior with a little secretarial experience, perhaps gained* from media, advertising, promo or PR, this is the place for you. BUT it's not all glitz and glamour, so you'll have to *bring some skills to the job, like 50 wpm, a cool head and* great organising ability. If you are 18+, and you want a genuinely interesting job, please call.

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 0171 734 7341

Maine - Tucker
Recruitment Consultants

THE ART OF ADMIN....

£17,000 + BONUS + *MORT SUB* + STL + GYM RESTAURANT + PENS

..is paramount at this City company. There is a huge amount of people, needing help from a new telephone line to new office equipment to office orientation to office orientation, and you will be assisting in all of this and more. You'll need confidence, and a couple of years work experience, including good typing (50 wpm) for back up work. If you are 22-25, well spoken and smart, please call.

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 0171 734 7341

£15,500 pa.

Administrative Assistant required for prestigious American Law School. Must have excellent secretarial skills, be able to deal with American students, faculty and fifteen things at once.

Send C.V. and handwritten cover letter outlining your qualifications for the position to:

The Director
Pepperdine University
School of Law
56 Prince's Gate
London SW7 2PG

MOVE OUT OF SECRETARIAL

to £23,000

Excellent opportunity for an ambitious individual to join a City secretarial consultancy. Full training provided, you will liaise with clients and interview applicants. A young, friendly team.

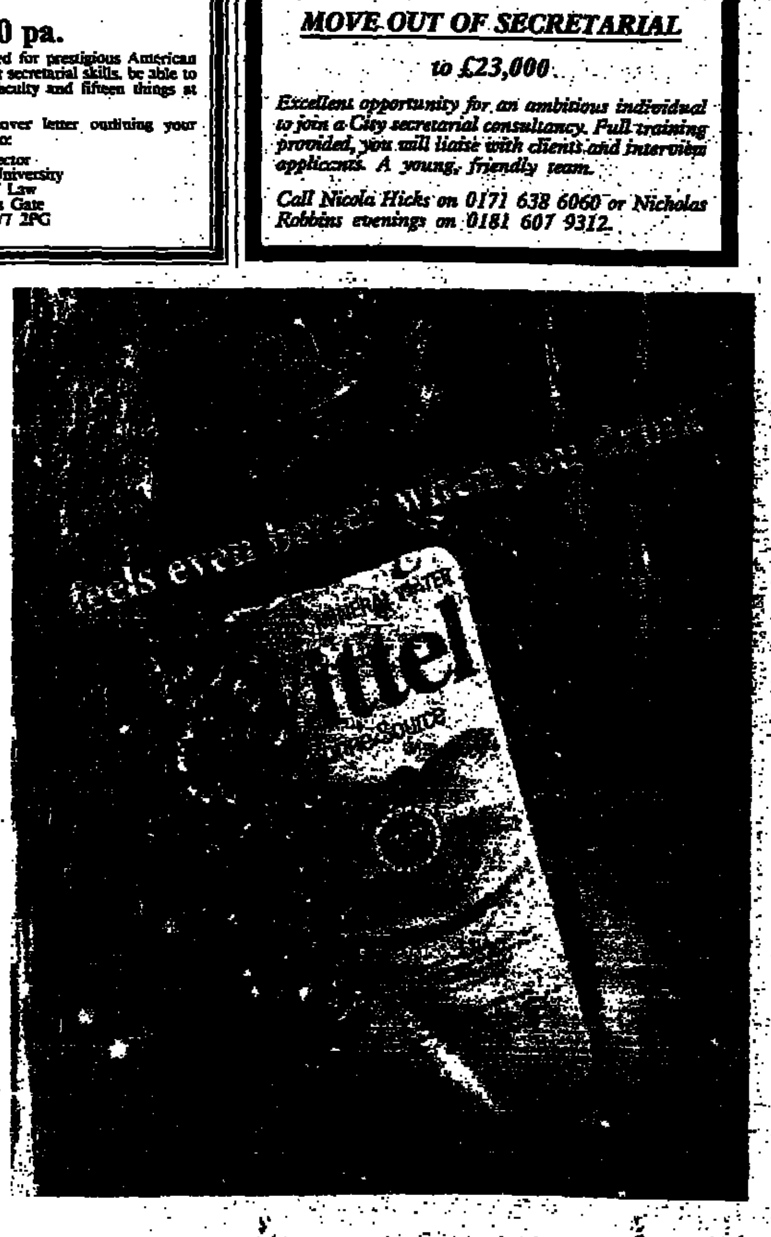
Call Nicola Hicks on 0171 638 6060 or Nicholas Robbins evenings on 0181 607 9312.

THE RITZ EUROPEAN TRAVEL
£20,000+

Enjoy involvement, variety and challenge alongside the Finance Director of this private investment management consultancy. Become totally involved in all ongoing projects, developing business relationships with clients and attending meetings both in the UK and in Europe. Total commitment, flexibility towards hours and the ability to travel required. 90 wpm SH/55 wpm WP. German or other European language preferred.

CONTACT: SARA SPRINGER ON 0171 - 629 4343
RITZ RECRUITMENT,
11/12 HANOVER STREET,
LONDON W1R 9HF

RITZ RECRUITMENT



Cosmopolitan Secretaries

Our Client, probably the most successful, cosmopolitan, innovative Finance House in London continues to expand. They are interested in recruiting only the very best secretaries - preferably A'level educated linguists. You will benefit from the back-up of all the most recent systems & technology, ongoing training & help from support staff. These opportunities are from Junior Exec's assistant up to *Senior Partner level. Salaries including* superb benefits, bonus, m.sub, paid overtime etc *range from £18,000 to £28,000. For more* information please call **0171 377 5500** fax **0171 377 5599.**

CROSS SELECTION

LONG TERM TEMP REQUIRED AS PA/SECRETARY TO GROUP HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

Salary Circa £20,000pa

Required for Head Office of major UK Company based in Central London - maternity cover from 2nd November '95 - Mid July '96.

WP and shorthand skills essential. Ideal candidate must have initiative, ability to work well under pressure, strong interpersonal and organisational skills and must have experience at a senior level.

Please telephone Michelle Hertz *on* 0171 631 0333 *no later than* Friday 13 October 1995.

EXPERIENCED LEGAL SECRETARY

To work at Partner level dealing with both contentious and non contentious litigation. Must possess excellent audio and general Secretarial skills *and show a willingness to assist in all matters.* Non smoking office.

Please apply with C.V. to Sylvia Shaw, **Personnel/Administration Manager, Goodman Derrick, 90 Fetter Lane, EC4A 1EQ.**

PA/ SECRETARY TO MD

of busy, dynamic and fast expanding restaurant company based in Knightsbridge. Must have experience of Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint and Access. Sense of humour, strong sense of responsibility, and plenty of initiative essential. Shorthand a bonus. Salary c.£15K-£17K+ benefits, depending on skills and experience. Apply in writing with CV to: Landstorm Ltd, 4th Floor Knightsbridge House, 197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RB.

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 9994

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX: 0171 481 9313

£19k + Bkg Bens

ENERGETIC SECRETARY

Fascinating position within the Emerging Markets division of this prestigious West End Investment Bank. We need an astute Secretary to work on the market research side, supporting two senior managers. The work is interesting, varied and international with plenty of organisation to do. You must have solid secretarial skills, an excellent knowledge of W4W, Excel and a good level of education. If you are outgoing, well presented and well spoken with plenty of energy and drive then call us now.

0171 225 1888

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

£18.5k + Bkg Bens

"JUGGLING GENIUS"

A high profile Director and his team are waiting to challenge your juggling abilities within this friendly European Investment Bank. You will be a bright, proactive organiser, keen to get involved and handle everything from complex travel itineraries to preparing presentations and liaising with clients. If you are a strong team player with excellent skills including shorthand, W4W and Powerpoint, please call to hear more.

0171 225 1888

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

£18,000

PR SECRETARY

This is a great opportunity for an enthusiastic and professional Secretary to work for a prestigious PR Consultancy. Your role will be to support two Senior Directors with all their secretarial and administrative work. This will involve liaising with key clients, arranging all meetings and talking to journalists. The ideal candidate will be bright, well spoken and a confident and diplomatic communicator. A minimum of 3 years work experience, 60wpm typing and excellent PC skills are essential.

0171 225 1888

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT
London W1

(7 MONTHS MATERNITY LEAVE COVER)

A varied role in the busy Personnel Department of a leading, fast moving Software Entertainment company, part of a major international organisation.

You will provide full secretarial support to the European HR Manager as well as be responsible for personnel activities including: recruitment and selection of temporary and permanent support staff; payroll administration; maintenance of a personnel database and the preparation of monthly reports.

You will need excellent organisational and communication skills and previous personnel experience is preferable. Good typing - 50 wpm and knowledge of Wordperfect 6 for Windows and Lotus.

This represents an excellent opportunity to get into and further develop a career in personnel.

Please send your CV with a covering letter stating your current salary quoting reference 1935/A to our Managing Consultant, Penelope Morton, Lansdowne, Rosedale House, Rosedale Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 2SZ. Fax (0181) 332 6902.

LANSDOWNE

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Torrance to resume battle with Langer

BY JOHN HOPKINS, *GOLF CORRESPONDENT*

SAM TORRANCE spent some time yesterday morning hitting shots with a new driver *on the practice range at Wentworth.* He will need all the power that he can muster tomorrow in the first round of the Toyota World Match Play *Championship,* because he has been drawn against Bernhard Langer. In days gone by, when he was more supple, Langer used to be known as "big hard banger" in recognition of the distances that he reached with his irons.

Torrance and Langer are two of the three men who dominate European golf. Torrance leads the order of merit with one event remaining. *Langer lies third, and has* a chance of catching the Scot in the final tournament, at Valderrama, in Spain, in two weeks.

Torrance: contented

The last member of the trio is Colin Montgomerie, who is second to Torrance and who is trying to become the European No 1 for the third year in *a row. Montgomerie will play* David Duval, the American who, at 24, is the youngest man in the field.

The other two matches to*morrow pit Lee Janzen, who is* second on the United States money-list, against Katsuyoshi Tomori, of Japan, and Costantino Rocca, who is also making his debut, against Vijay Singh. The four seeds *will play* their first matches on Friday.

These are the salad days of all salad days for Torrance, who has won three events in Europe this year and who is approaching the end of the best year of his career. "I am a lot more content *than I used* to be seven or eight years ago." Torrance said. "My family helps. They take away the importance of what I do for a *living, which is secondary to* my family."

Even preparing for his thirteenth event in 14 weeks, Torrance did not appear unduly tired. He tilted his baseball cap, grinned roguishly, and considered the challenge *presented by* Langer. "His strength is his mind," Torrance said. "He is very determined, very steely, and he has an incredible short game."

The contest between Torrance and Langer will be a match of contrasts. Torrance smokes and drinks, Langer does not. Langer works out in *the fitness caravan that at*tends each European Tour event, Torrance does not. "I walk six miles each day, five days each week, for nine *months of the year." Torrance* said. "That's enough for me. I am more of a darts player-golfer. How long can I keep going at this rate? For another *20 minutes.*"

Wentworth slumbered in the autumn sunshine yesterday. The West Course looked superb. "It's long all right." *Torrance, a big hitter, said.* "I know this course well, very well. I have played it for 25 years."

DRAW: L Janzen (US) v K Tomori (Japan) — winner to play E Els (SA); S Torrance (Scot) v B Langer (Ger) — winner to play N Price (Zim); C Montgomerie (Scot) v D Duval (US) — winner to play S Elkington *(Aus); C Rocca (It) v V Singh (Fiji)* — winner to play B Crenshaw (US).

ERIKO SUGITA

Vitaly Scherbo, the Belorussia gymnast, performs on the parallel bars on his way to the apparatus final gold medal at the world championships in Japan yesterday

England banking on Bucknall

THE good news for England *basketball is that Steve* Bucknall should be back. The bad is that Estonia, their opponents at Leicester tonight, may be even more powerful *than Latvia, who last Sunday* in Riga overwhelmed Laszlo Nemeth's squad 94-67 in its opening group B fixture in the semi-final round of the Euro*pean championships (Nicho*las Harling writes).

According to Billy Mimms, the Leopards' coach, the Estonians are "very talented, very *big and very sound.*"

In his part-time capacity as scout for the English Basket Ball Association, Mimms saw the Estonians crush Portugal 105-85 *in Tallinn on Sunday.* He was particularly impressed by Kullimae and Pehka, the guards, who contributed 45 points between *them, and Babenko, the 6ft* 11in former Russia international. "We've got the talent to beat them," Mimms said, "but we've got to bring it all to the *table.*"

Spencer Dunkley, John Amaechi and Trevor Gordon are all still missing, but Gordon's formidable 6ft 9in pres*ence should, at least,* be available for the encounters with Germany and Portugal next month.

ENGLAND (from): P Scantlebury (captain, Thames Valley Tigers), S Bucknall, N Austin, A Gardiner (all London Towers), R Baker, K Brown, I White (all Leopards), R Huggins (Sheffield Sharks), M Payne, P *Vourliotis (both Birmingham Bullets),* K Samuels, A Simms (both Derby Storm).

Ireland anxious to do business with Dwyer

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

BOB DWYER, like so many in rugby union this season, is in *limbo. His contract* as the Australia national coach does not run out until December, but the decision last week by the Australian Rugby Football *Union* to *dispense* with *his* services leaves him without a constituency at home. It is a vacuum that Ireland are eager to fill.

Their selectors met him in London on Sunday, there were further discussions yesterday and, today, Dwyer flies to Argentina to coach an international XV against San Isidro in a centenary match in Buenos Aires this weekend. Thence, he returns to Sydney to sort out various business projects before resuming his coaching duties with Racing Club in Paris.

There is a clear desire by the Irish to extend their search for *a national coach abroad. Of* the home nominees, John O'Driscoll has already withdrawn, leaving Gerry Murphy, the embattled incumbent, and *Harry Williams,* of Ulster, for consideration by the executive committee meeting on Friday. If the selectors can offer a package involving *Dwyer, 54, to that meeting,* it will be the answer to a prayer.

"There are a lot of things happening on the business front," Dwyer, who has an *interest in a corporate hospi*tality firm, a celebrity speakers concern and an exhibitions business, said yesterday, "but unfortunately I'm addicted to coaching rugby teams.

"There is an affinity between Australians and Ireland and I'm a bit closer than some because my grandfather emigrated from Ireland. It's a great place; nice people, they play their rugby with a passion. Their situation is not unlike Australia, where the game has limited popularity and is not the national sport: but I have to wrestle with the problem that I'm passionately Australian."

*That same affinity has al*ready brought two leading Australian coaches to Dublin: Bob Templeton to Blackrock College and John Connolly to Old Belvedere. Indeed, Connolly, the Queensland coach who has stood three times *against* Dwyer for the Australia post and lost each time, was also approached by the Ireland selectors, but has now withdrawn from consideration.

As much as anything, it is *the proximity* of the two jobs which Dwyer may find awkward. Ireland's next international is on November 18 against Fiji and it would be *quite a leap from the southern* hemisphere to the north within little more than a month for the man who coached Australia during an unparalleled ten-year period *which included* victory in the 1991 World Cup.

In any case, Dwyer has a commitment with Racing until *March, but the break in the* French club championship gives him the opportunity to sort out his business and his sporting careers and consider a *future with Ireland.* "There is no possibility of taking on something which would replace my commitment to Racing," Dwyer said. "The only *question* is whether there is something which could be dovetailed with it."

Clubs seek expert advice

THE activities of leading rugby union clubs in England, Wales and France are beginning to resemble those of trade *unions* in the *Eighties:* they will be sending out for fish and chips next as meeting succeeds meeting over the best way forward in the newly-pro*fessionalised game (David* Hands writes).

The three working parties established by England's first division clubs reported their *progress on Monday evening* and will conclude their research next Wednesday. The clubs hope to invite Sir John Hall, the Newcastle United *chairman, to address them,* tapping his expertise in football just as the Welsh clubs did when meeting Rick Parry, the chief executive of the FA *Premier League, last* week.

The Welsh, further down the road than England, are on the verge of presenting their "blueprint for change" to the Welsh Rugby Union, while, before then, leading players in France are returning to the negotiating table with the French federation over pay and conditions. They are unhappy that their scale of pay, at a basic rate of £20,000 a season, *will be linked to* results.

According to reports in *Midi Olympique,* the French rugby newspaper, Jean-*Jacques Bertrand,* the *lawyer* who advises Eric Cantona, has offered to help the players establish a FrF5 million (about £667,000) foundation, while a *software company has offered* French internationals interest-free grants to set up their own businesses — and a guarantee that, if the businesses fail, the *players will not be left to pick* up the pieces. Already, Philippe Sella, his country's most capped player, has applied.

There is also some rugby to be played. France, Italy and Romania join Argentina to begin the Latin Cup, a new competition, *in Buenos Aires* this weekend, with the French calling Alain Carminati into their squad in place of the injured Abdelatif Benazzi. *Carminati was last capped in* 1990 before being dismissed against Scotland, receiving a long suspension and joining rugby league.

Bernard Lapasset, the French federation president, said yesterday that the three international players involved in the Currie Cup final this *weekend will not be consid*ered for the New Zealand tour of France next month. Thierry Lacroix and Olivier Roumat, who play for Natal, and *Laurent Cabannes, the West*ern Province flanker, have been told to rest on their return to France.

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In Search of Excellence £20-25,000+ Package *A high profile 1:1 Executive PA* role has arisen within this International Co. based in Mayfair. The job involves *front-line liaison* with the *top* people from the world's top CO's. Hence, you should have 1st class PA & communication skills, be supremely organised & professional with a high standard of presentation. If you are serious about your career & have experience of working within a Top 100 Company. Age 25-40. Call Anderson Hoare on 0171-824 8821.

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BACK to work? Looking to get back into the market place in a busy and involving role? Prestigious West End based co requires professional and flexible secretary with strong organisational and admin skills. WP X-training available. £14,000 plus benefits + bonus. Call Sarah on 0171 437 6032 for more details. Hobs Rec Cons.

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CONSERVATIVE MP seeks House of Commons secretary. Flexi/PT to suit. CV to Mrs V Guillaume, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, or Fax to 0171 219 6866.

DIRECTORS Sec. Property Cpy. required to work flexible basis - 3 days a week - smart non-smoking offices in Knightsbridge Salary based upon c.19K pa. Send CV to Sally Russell, 9th Floor, 198 Knightsbridge, London SW7.

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FAMOUS international leisure company require a secretary/admin assistant to work for the director of legal services. This is a busy and varied role using your good S/H and WP skills (90/55). 70% admin but occasional long documents to type. They need a confident and outgoing person with a sound secretarial CV. Age 25-34. Stunning offices near Waterloo. Salary upto £19,000. exc benefits. Please call Camilla Loughton on 0171-434 4512. *Crone Corkill rec cons.*

HIGHLY skilled secretary req.for a small, motivated, well established and successful firm of *Commercial Property Consul*tants with prestigious offices at Marble Arch. We are seeking a versatile, outgoing, well spoken secretary/office manageress with a sense of humour to become the essential part of a four man team. Applicants should have at least two years property experience with excl. typing speeds and computer skills. Proficiency in W4W 6 essential. Salary £17,500. Pls call Ann Hutchinson - Tel: 0171-402 5555

HOTEL Chain. International. K/bridge, seek young sec for Development Team. Age 20-26. c£18,000. lots VIP contact. Good sec skills important, min 1 yrs exp. King & Toben Rec Cons 0171 629 9648

1:1 *Junior secretary required to* work for a charming Director in a lovely, friendly fund Management company. Ideal chance to move away from team support role to work at board level. Lots of client contact and chance to perfect spreadsheet work! Beautiful West End offices and delightful colleagues await you! 90wpm/50wpm. age 20-26. £14,500 and wonderful benefits. Please call Sophie Dowding at Crone Corkill immediate *interview on 0171- 434 4512.*

£26k Package. Experienced grad calibre PA with fluent Italian, English mother tongue, in City bank. *W4W. Excel. T.J.& Co* 0171 838 0023 (rec cons).

MATURE Sec. for senior post in a West London Trade Assoc. An attractive job for an exp. person age 40+ with first class skills - sh/hand, audio & W.P. 6 windows. Sal £16,000. Phone 0171 828 8348 O.V. Selection (Rec. Cons)

PR £18,000. A superb opportunity as back-up to a Director of *City PR Company. Lots of* admin and client contact. Directors' Secretaries 0171 629 9323.

*P.A. to M.D. Required for City-*based property developers. Must be articulate and self motivated with experience of Apple Mac, Excel and Windows essential. Only those with minimum of 5 years experience need apply. Salary around £16-17K. negotiable pending qualifications. CV's to Project Manager. 109 Farringdon Road. London EC1R 3BT.

£20,000 package for PA/SEC (A'level educ) for academic/ business environment. Oxford Circus location, small, highly professional Co. Good sec. b/ground. 6 wks hol/pension. Age 28-38. King & Toben Rec Cons 0171 629 9648

PA to Director 19k. PR Co. NW9. Plush offices. W4W/spreadsheets. 0181 209 1858 *Agy.*

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PROJECT Assistant - required by busy office in Kensington this is a very varied postion, requiring someone with exceptional skills and experience. Duties include general secretarial tasks, organisation of conferences, dealing with enquiries. You will need to be self motivated, highly efficient and organised. You will support 2 full time directors any many others. Good communications skills as well as being able to work under extreme pressure needed. Immediate start. PC experience essential, preferably including *MS Word/Excel on Apple Mac.* £15000 pa. Apply with covering letter to: Mr David Perry, Project Director, Royal College of Art Schools Technology Project, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2EU Fax 0171 584 2062

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TEMPTING TIMES

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SECRETARY Medical practice in K'bridge requires N/S with excellent typing and Audio skills to start immediately. Must be well spoken, flexible and computer literate, to include WP 6.0 and database. Sal £12- £14,000 Call Susannah on: 0171 235 5151 bet 9 and 5.

BANKING & LEGAL LA CREME

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ADMINISTRATION

ADMIN/MARKETING £13,500 + Exc Bens Int'l Mgmt Cons. Windows exp includ tables/mailmerge, 35wpm WP. good admin exp + 5 GCSE's includ Maths/English C+ ess. A'levels an adv. Age 19-22. Next Emp. 0171 287 3666.

PERSONNEL *Officer To £20K +* Exc Bens 2yrs exp., IPD qualif.. + 35wpm Windows/Excel ess. A 'levels pref. Specialist role in Top Int'l Co. Next Emp. 0171 287 3666

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PART TIME VACANCIES

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FULFILLING post for mature, caring person with W4W and good audio skills in small private day school in NW1 for children with special needs. Salary approx £8,500. 8.30am-1pm daily. Part time Careers on 0171 437 3103.

HARD-WORKING PA required for busy specialist in Central London, 10am - 3pm weekdays; salary £10,000 p.a. Contact PO Box No 0541

20 HRS p/w (totally flex on days etc.) - Edgware Rd. Audio and gen sec work in lively environment £8,000. Please call King & Toben Rec. 0171-629 9648

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RECEPTIONIST 12.30-5.30pm £11000, lovely offices in W1. Call CPC 0171 430 9021 rec cons.

Pro-active PA/Sec. 20-25 hrs a wk for MD. Euston. £8.50ph. Call 0171 493 7001. SECRETARIES PLUS. rec cons.

SECRETARY required, by Mayfair investment property company for 2-3 days per week, preferably with shorthand and knowledge of Lotus Ami Pro. Tel: 0171 499 1727.

ADMINISTRATION

RECRUITMENT Officer £17,500 + Exc Bens. Major Int'l co. V high recruitment element. Pref. rec cons. background, good quals ess. Age 24-29. Next Employment 0171 287 3665

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Murphy on cloud nine after triumphant return

Simon Barnes sees the second coming of a resilient National Hunt jockey at Chepstow

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Murphy gives a masterly front-running performance on his comeback to win aboard Jibereen at Chepstow yesterday

Well, a fairy story. Why not? this was not the Grand National. A silly, gimmicky little event. Flat race jockeys v jump race jockeys, a jolly idea that signifies nothing. Somebody's brilliant notion for pulling in the punters, except that it doesn't really work.

"Nothing could be better than this. It's like riding 500 winners in a season," said the winning jockey, Declan Murphy. He was in the middle of a breathless, still-sweating race-rider's version of the Molly Bloom soliloquy in the winner's enclosure at Chepstow yesterday after the non-event had finished.

And not exactly getting things out of proportion either. For no one would have thought Murphy, 28, would win a race ever again. Or breathe. He suffered one of those falls from hell 17 months ago, at Haydock Park.

He needed brain surgery, and after that, every breath you take is something of a bonus. Winning a horse race is something else again, and if the race looked a little bit like a lady's excuse me, don't say that to Murphy. And no one else seemed to be complaining. Well, maybe the bookmakers, but only privately, because *they dare not look too much* like bad sports.

Because it was all so frightfully appropriate Murphy's mount, Jibereen, took the lead in the first *100 yards and at that point seemed to acquire an invisible forcefield* around himself. No one got close to him, let alone tried to pass. He won at 3-1, and I was so stupid, I didn't even put the mortgage on him.

But who could possibly begrudge Murphy his win. Horses are dreadful things, causes of pain and heartbreak, but sometimes they give it back. This was one of those occasions: "I've never been this high in my life," said Murphy, foot-wide grin, surrounded by grinning journalists and an octopus tentacled fiancée positively glowing with relief and delight.

"People pay a lot of *money* to try and get to feel like this," he said. "But I've just been paid." To ride again, to race again, to win again: "It was an unrealisable dream, and *it has become a reality. Words can't* express it." But he kept trying to find them. Only Joanna Park, his fiancée, was silent, but the smile of disbelief said enough. She knows better *than anyone* the anxieties that lie ahead: for now it is time for Lazarus to resume his race-riding career.

A National Hunt jockey's life is a *round of effort* and falls with occasional shafts of euphoria. A National Hunt jockey's wife is one of worry with occasional interruptions of pure relief.

There will be plenty of people *to* say that Murphy is crazy to go back to racing. These people are right. It is crazy to be a jump jockey once: to do so twice is damn near certifiable. Even if *within days of Murphy's fall a new riding helmet offering* added protection was introduced.

Naturally, he back-pedalled all talk of nerves about racing, about falling, about the risk of death that *colours everything to do with horses.* "I felt so *in control*," he said. Yes, the distant whiff of death: that is something that everyone who has ever pointed a horse at a fence knows about. A distant whiff of death: there is nothing in the world *more life-affirming.*

All those who indulge in dangerous sports insist again and again that they have no death wish. It is not death they love, but life: you are never more truly alive than when *the distant whiff of mortality* is stinging your nostrils.

Hence the gabbling, compulsive talking in the winner's *enclosure afterwards.* "Words can't describe it," he said, once again, as he tried another few hundred of them. He has been schooling horses over jumps again, too: and that too was wonderful, unbelievable, *meant so much* to him, and he got paid for that too.

There will be more difficult challenges than the Flat v jump jockeys *handicap:* but there again there won't be. In the next *17 months,* there will be more challenging assignments in terms of mere race-riding. But what does that matter? *After the horrors,* to be back doing your job again, *that is enough.* And that counts double when you are standing in the winner's enclosure with your fiancée all around you.

If only it could always be like this: always in the Autumn sun, the horse always winning, and the press in a good temper. But this is a sport with a savage dimension to it, and it takes its toll of riders and of horses.

No one with any sense ever has anything to do with horses. But do people who live apart from horses ever feel quite as Murphy did yesterday? I see no evidence of it. *When's the next race, Declan?* "I *don't want to think about it. I don't* want to get off the cloud I'm on." Let us hope the next fall that comes is an easy one: for come it will.

Lammtarra retired to Dalham Hall Stud

By RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

LAMMTARRA, the undefeat*ed winner of the Derby, King George VI and Queen Eliza*beth Diamond Stakes, and Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, has run his last race and will be retired to Dalham Hall *Stud in Newmarket.*

Announcing the *decision* last night, Simon Crisford, the Godolphin racing manager said: "He won't be running in *the Breeders' Cup as he had a* hard race in the Arc and the view we have taken is that the Breeders' Cup is going to come a bit too soon for him.

"Early on in his career it was decided he would be saved for the big occasions and each individual race required an individual preparation. What a fantastic *racehorse he proved to be."*

Despite running in only four races — which lasted a total of lessthan ten minutes *— the son of Nijinsky earned himself a place in the history* books by matching the record of Mill Reef and winning the three top middle distance races in Europe.

Crisford acknowledged that the decision to retire Lammtarra after only four starts would be a blow for punters and spectators but said: *"It is a great result for* British breeding".

"He has to be one of the most attractive stallion prospects to retire to stud in England for many years. It is a *major result for British* breeding."

Leading article, page 17

HAYDOCK PARK

THUNDERER

2.00 BEE HEALTH BOY (nap)
2.30 Salmis
3.00 Gone Savage
3.30 Sebastian
4.00 Alessandra
4.30 Pumice
5.00 Takfit
5.30 Dombey

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.00 HEAR THE MUSIC.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 Inchrory. 3.30 Sebastian. 5.30 FOG CITY (nap).

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (GOOD IN PLACES) DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.00 SYCAMORE NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £3,786: 5f) (11 runners)

101	(5)	111380	WHICKSEY PERRY 27 (D,F,G,S) (J Henderson) J Berry 9-7	P Roberts (7)	81
102	(1)	241381	HEAR THE MUSIC 10 (CD,F,S) (Lady Harrison) B Hills 9-3	Pat Eddery	●
103	(9)	002	CHALICE 11 (A Hall) J Balding 8-5	J Williams	85
104	(11)	003	ED'S FOLLY 13 (E Dawest) S Dow 8-8	A Whelan (5)	88
105	(2)	0010	FIRST MATE 7 (B,D,G,S) (S Bowring) S Bowring 7-12	T Williams	95
106	(3)	150310	PRECIOUS GIRL 19 (D,G,S) (P Airey) D Moffatt 7-11	Darren Moffatt (3)	97
107	(4)	14	TROPICAL BEACH 173 (D,G) (Contact One Travel) J Berry 7-9	L Charnock	91
108	(8)	606301	BEE HEALTH BOY 11 (B,C,S) (Bee Health Ltd) M W Easterby 7-7	P Fessey (5)	95
109	(10)	604	FINISTERRE 11 (B) (Les Femmes Fatales) J J O'Neill 7-7	J Quinn	81
110	(7)	0500	WILD HUMOUR 30 (R Hales) W Muir 7-7	Martin Dwyer (7)	85
111	(6)	324003	CHARTERHOUSE XPRES 11 (V) (Charterhouse Plc) M McCormack 7-7	N Varley (3)	94

Long handicap: Bee Health Boy 7-6, Finisterre 7-3, Wild Humour 7-1, Charterhouse Xpres 7-1.

BETTING: 5-2 Hear The Music, 5-1 Whicksey Perry, 6-1 Chalice, 7-1 Bee Health Boy, 8-1 others.

1994: SHE'S DYNAMITE 8-13 Pat Eddery (9-1) W Jarvis 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

WHICKSEY PERRY 9¾l 6th of 9 to Lucky Lionel in group III Norfolk Stakes at Ascot (5f, good to firm) on penultimate start. HEAR THE MUSIC beat Whittle Rock 7l in a 5-runner conditions race over course and distance (soft). TROPICAL BEACH beat Allstak 1½l in 6-runner maiden auction at Edinburgh (5f, good) on penultimate start. BEE HEALTH BOY beat Mister Joel 1¾l in 24-runner selling nursery here (6f, soft).
Selection: HEAR THE MUSIC

2.30 MARTON INSTITUTE CENTENARY CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £4,908: 1m 30yd) (4 runners)

201	(2)	53151	INCHRORY 29 (D,G,S) (Sir David Wills) H Cecil 9-7	Pat Eddery	90
202	(4)	0	MY ARCHIE 21 (G Farndon) R Woodhouse 8-11	N Connorton	–
203	(3)	1	CLASSIC ROMANCE 11 (C,S) (Classic Bloodstock Plc) S Williams 8-10	A Mackay	85
204	(1)	1	SALMIS 14 (S) (S Nicoll, Dearden and Pears) J Fanshawe 8-6	D Harrison	●

BETTING: 4-7 Inchrory, 11-4 Salmis, 5-1 Classic Romance, 33-1 My Archie.

1994: ALFAASELAH 8-10 W R Swinburn (7-2) M Stoute 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

INCHRORY beat Even Top 1¾l in 8-runner conditions race at Sandown (1m, good to soft). MY ARCHIE 30l 7th of 8 to Hidden Oasis in maiden at Chester (7f, good to soft). CLASSIC ROMANCE beat Sally Girl 1¼l in 7-runner maiden here (7f, soft). SALMIS beat Missila 1¾l in 11-runner maiden auction at Folkestone (7f, soft).
Selection: INCHRORY.

3.00 TOMMY WALLIS HANDICAP (£4,241: 6f) (24 runners)

301	(18)	231503	SEA THUNDER 11 (D,G) (Greenfield Stud) I Balding 3-10-0	L Dettori	94
302	(22)	005004	MISTER JOLSON 10 (D,F,G,S) (B Frooms) R Hodges 6-10-0	Pat Eddery	95
303	(16)	040000	SELHURSTPARK FLYER 25 (F,S) (C Onions) J Berry 4-9-12	P Roberts (7)	97
304	(20)	000109	BE WARNED 11 (B,CD,F,G) (Midcourts) N Callaghan 4-9-10	Paul Eddery	94
305	(4)	110500	BROADSTAIRS BEAUTY 18 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Hunt) S Bowring 5-9-10	S D Williams	93
306	(1)	510-361	CHARLIE SILLETT 10 (CD,S) (J Sillett) B Hills 3-9-10	M Hills	95
307	(14)	310033	FIRST VEIL 10 (C,D,S) (R Tooth) J Fanshawe 5-9-9	N Varley (3)	92
308	(19)	23-4563	PALO BLANCO 4 (F,G) (J Brown) T Barron 4-9-8	L Charnock	●
309	(15)	033320	ROSSINI BLUE 4 (D,F) (R Flood Bloodstock Ltd) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-7	K Fallon	94
310	(13)	21-0230	SUPERPRIDE 116 (D,S) (Mrs M Ward) Mrs M Reveley 3-9-6	K Darley	88
311	(12)	452431	QUILLING 8 (F) (A Watson) M Dods 3-9-6 (5ex)	J Weaver	98
312	(7)	205020	SUE ME 32 (D,S) (M Payton) W Muir 3-9-5	W Carson	97
313	(3)	252005	BAJAN ROSE 13 (D,F,G) (C McKenna) M Blanshard 3-9-5	M Roberts	98
314	(17)	430030	BARATO 10 (D,F,G) (D Young) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-4	T Finn (7)	95
315	(9)	014245	BROCKTON FLAME 10 (D,F,G) (Mrs D A La Trobe) J Eustace 3-9-2	R Cochrane	94
316	(21)	550460	GONE SAVAGE 19 (D,F,G,S) (On The Floor Pipes) W Musson 7-8-13	P McCabe (3)	93
317	(23)	000042	LITTLE IBNR 10 (D,G) (Swinnerton Transport Ltd) P Evans 4-8-12	G Hind	92
318	(8)	1-13014	DOUBLE SPLENDOUR 22 (D,F,G) (Yorkshire Club 1990) P Felgate 5-8-10	W Ryan	96
319	(11)	460010	KNAYTON LASS 10 (D,F,G) (Mrs J Davenport) M W Easterby 4-8-8	M Birch	94
320	(2)	006315	MAID O'CANNIE 22 (B,D,BF,F,S) (Mrs E Rhind) M W Easterby 4-8-8	S Maloney	94
321	(10)	404000	MONIS 28 (F) (Five Star Racing) J Balding 4-8-8	J Williams	90
322	(24)	425530	MAMMA'S DUE 27 (J B Partnership) J Berry 3-8-6	J Carroll	86
323	(6)	500006	BELLS OF LONGWICK 18 (V,F,G,S) (Mrs M Wickham) W Haigh 6-8-4	D Gibson	84
324	(5)	640110	DENSBEN 4 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Pilling) Denys Smith 11-8-4	T Williams	95

BETTING: 9-1 Charlie Sillett, 10-1 Sea Thunder, First Veil, 12-1 Be Warned, Little Ibnr, Selhurstpark Flyer, Quilling, 14-1 Double Splendour, Gone Savage, Mister Jolson, 16-1 others.

1994: PANIKIN 6-8-13 J Quinn (20-1) J Wharton 23 ran

FORM FOCUS

MISTER JOLSON 6l 4th of 12 to Bowden Rose in handicap at Brighton (5f 59yd, good). CHARLIE SILLETT beat LITTLE IBNR (6lb better off) 3l in 23-runner handicap over course and distance (soft) with FIRST VEIL (5lb better off) head 3rd, BROCKTON FLAME (9lb better off) 3l 5th, KNAYTON LASS (7lb better off) 8l 11th and BARATO (8lb better off) 1l 12th. PALO BLANCO 1l 3rd of 23 to Double Bounce in handicap at York (6f, good). ROSSINI BLUE head 2nd of 16 to Kid Ory in handicap at Redcar (7f, good) on penultimate start. QUILLING beat Mister Westsound 1¾l in 27-runner handicap at Redcar (7f, firm). DOUBLE SPLENDOUR beat Our Shadee 4l in 20-runner handicap at Yarmouth (6f, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: PALO BLANCO

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HAYDOCK PARK SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: H Cecil, 19 winners from 57 runners, 33.3%; J Gosden, 25 from 95, 26.3%; W Jarvis, 7 from 31, 22.6%; B Hills, 18 from 81, 22.2%; T Barron, 4 from 18, 22.2%; Lord Huntingdon, 7 from 34, 20.6%; R Charlton, 9 from 49, 18.4%.

JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery, 19 winners from 75 rides, 25.3%; W R Swinburn, 14 from 62, 22.6%; M Hills, 20 from 91, 22.0%; R Havlin, 3 from 14, 21.4%; R Cochrane, 8 from 39, 20.5%; J Reid, 16 from 82, 19.5%; M Roberts, 19 from 101, 18.8%

3.30 KING'S REGIMENT CUP CONDITIONS STAKES (£4,982: 1m 3f 200yd) (5 runners)

401	(3)	12-1605	PENNY A DAY 15 (CD,F,G,S) (J Good) Mrs M Reveley 5-9-13	K Darley	81
402	(4)	62626-2	MACK THE KNIFE 12 (D,F,G) (D & G Mercer) M Pipe 6-9-7	M Roberts	95
403	(2)	121	SEBASTIAN 146 (D,F,G) (Lord Howard de Walden) H Cecil 3-9-1	Pat Eddery	●
404	(1)	356400	HEATHYARDS ROCK 12 (V,G) (L Morgan) R Hollinshead 3-8-11	W Ryan	76
405	(5)	1-32052	NASH TERRACE 11 (S) (Lord Weinstock & S Weinstock) R Charlton 3-8-10	J Reid	96

BETTING: 1-2 Sebastian, 9-2 Mack The Knife, 6-1 Nash Terrace, 7-1 Penny A Day, 33-1 Heathyards Rock.

1994: FLORID 3-8-10 W Ryan (100-30) H Cecil 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

PENNY A DAY 5l 5th of 8 to Secret Vale in handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good) with HEATHYARDS ROCK (4lb worse off) 2½l 7th. MACK THE KNIFE 2½l 2nd of 7 to Minds Music in listed race at Newmarket (1m 4f, good). SEBASTIAN beat NASH TERRACE (5lb better off) 10l in 5-runner conditions race at Salisbury (1m 4f, good). NASH TERRACE 1¼l 2nd of 9 to Revere in listed race at Goodwood (1m 2f, good to soft).
Selection: SEBASTIAN

4.00 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND HAWTHORN MAIDEN STAKES (Div I: 2-Y-O: £4,320: 7f 30yd) (9 runners)

501	(3)		BATOUTOFTHEBLUE (Dr C Emmerson) W Haggas 9-0	Dale Gibson	–
502	(1)		HARBOUR DUES (Hesmonds Stud) Lady Herries 9-0	R Cochrane	–
503	(8)		POLAR ECLIPSE (J Good) M Johnston 9-0	J Weaver	–
504	(6)		PRESENT 'N CORRECT (A Lyons) C Booth 9-0	M Birch	–
505	(4)	6	SILENT GUEST 17 (E Rimmer) M Prescott 9-0	G Duffield	–
506	(9)		SON OF ANSHAN (G Swinbank) Mrs A Swinbank 9-0	N Connorton	–
507	(7)	00	SPILLO 15 (Telmargo S R L) L Cumani 9-0	K Darley	93
508	(5)	25	ALESSANDRA 61 (D Deer) B Hills 8-9	M Hills	●
509	(2)		WAYPOINT (R Richards) R Charlton 8-9	T Sprake	–

BETTING: 11-4 Polar Eclipse, 7-2 Alessandra, 4-1 Waypoint, 5-1 Spillo, 7-1 Harbour Dues, 8-1 others.

1994: NEW MAN 9-0 J Carroll (6-4 fav) J Gosden 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

HARBOUR DUES (foaled Mar 15). Half-brother by Slip Anchor to 8f/7f winner Quinsigimond; dam half-sister to Fillies' Mile winner Leap Lively. POLAR ECLIPSE (Feb 10). Half-brother by Polar Falcon to 5f juvenile winner Princess Sadie; dam won over 1m 1f. SPILLO 5½l 8th of 20 to Helicon in maiden at Newmarket (1m, good). ALESSANDRA 6¾l 5th of 8 to Mons in listed race at Newbury (7f, good to firm). WAYPOINT (Mar 19). By Cadeaux Genereux; dam dual 5f juvenile winner, including Queen Mary Stakes.
Selection: ALESSANDRA

4.30 HORNBEAM FILLIES HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,812: 1m 2f 120yd) (16 runners)

601	(12)	4223	HEBOOB ALSHEMAAL 11 (Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) J Gosden 9-7	L Dettori	92
602	(5)	53-0165	PUMICE 35 (F) (Lord Halifax) L Cumani 9-5	K Darley	93
603	(9)	0-3331	ROSY HUE 12 (D,G) (Lord Weinstock & S Weinstock) R Charlton 9-5	Pat Eddery	98
604	(6)	441-66	MISTINGUETT 172 (BF,G) (B Nielsen) D Loder 9-5	G Carter	89
605	(7)	233015	WILD RITA 10 (G) (T Brady) W Muir 9-3	M Hills	94
606	(8)	612414	EMILY-MOU 12 (D,F,G,S) (A Reid) B Meehan 9-3	B Doyle	98
607	(11)	423421	DOMITIA 10 (D,B) (M Fitzgerald) M Bell 8-13	M Fenton	93
608	(10)	315060	SHIFT AGAIN 22 (F) (Buckram Oak Holdings) W Jarvis 8-12	J Reid	83
609	(14)	42-4	SADLY SOBER 110 (M Arbib) P Cole 8-12	J Weaver	90
610	(16)	63215	DEBUTANTE DAYS 26 (D,F) (Lady McAlpine) A Stewart 8-10	M Roberts	93
611	(2)	01002	BRAVE PRINCESS 11 (B) (Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) M Jarvis 8-10	P Robinson	90
612	(3)	502110	PRUDENT PET 26 (F,G) (The McLain & Rodda Partnership) C Fairhurst 8-9	J Tate	91
613	(1)	660460	CORYANA DANCER 25 (Barouche Stud Ltd) R Hollinshead 8-2	M Henry (5)	97
614	(12)	113654	INSTANTANEOUS 9 (F,G) (R Griffin) M H Easterby 7-10	W Carson	95
615	(4)	331016	MILL DANCER 11 (BF,C,D,F,S) (Mrs D Jones) E Alston 7-7	D Wright (3)	●
616	(15)	04P14	BOLDLY SO 119 (D,BF,G) (Miss T Sewremont) W Musson 7-7	J Quinn	–

Long handicap: Boldly So 7-1.

BETTING: 7-2 Rosy Hue, 5-1 Heboob Alshemaal, 6-1 Pumice, 8-1 Domitia, 10-1 Emily-Mou, 12-1 Wild Rita, Sadly Sober, 16-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

HEBOOB ALSHEMAAL 6l 3rd of 17 to Dance So Suite in handicap over course and distance (soft) with MILL DANCER (2lb better off) 1¾l 6th. PUMICE 6¼l 5th of 11 to Out On A Promise in rated stakes at Doncaster (1m 2f 60yd, good to firm). ROSY HUE beat Devon Peasant short-head in 15-runner maiden at Goodwood (1m 2f, good). EMILY-MOU 8¼l 4th of 20 to Nigel's Lad in handicap at Newmarket (1m 2f, good). DOMITIA beat Water Hazard 1¼l in 8-runner ladies' handicap at Brighton (1m 2f, good). SADLY SOBER 4¼l 4th of 6 to Goonda in maiden at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm). DEBUTANTE DAYS 3¼l 5th of 14 to Tula in handicap at Ayr (1m 2f, good) with PRUDENT PET (4lb better off) 25l 14th. INSTANTANEOUS 7¾l 4th of 18 to Secret Service in apprentices handicap at Pontefract (1m 4f, good to firm). BOLDLY SO beat Slapy Dam 1¼l in 19-runner selling handicap at Nottingham (1m 2f, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: HEBOOB ALSHEMAAL (nap)

5.00 HOLLY MAIDEN STAKES (£4,026: 1m 3f 200yd) (20 runners)

1	(11)	80	CARIBBEAN SURFER 25 (M Sawers) J Goldie 6-9-5	R Havlin (5)	–
2	(17)	080	LAWFUL LOVE 125 (Mrs D Andrews) T Donnelly 5-9-5	S D Williams	–
3	(9)	00-	LIVIO 172J (The Low Flyers (Thoroughbreds) Ltd) L Lungo 4-9-5	M Birch	–
4	(18)	00-	DAMARITA 485 (Classic Link Synd) Lady Herries 4-9-0	Shona Crombie (7)	–
5	(13)		KIRKADIAN 376J (G Allison) N Bycroft 5-9-0	G Wright (7)	–
6	(10)	00	PALACE RIVER 44J (G Parrington) D Moffatt 7-9-0	Darren Moffatt (3)	–
7	(20)	36	DARTER 21 (Sheikh Mohammed) L Cumani 3-8-11	K Darley	92
8	(2)	0-6	EXPANSIVE RUNNER 16 (American Connection II) P Harris 3-8-11	G Hind	76
9	(6)	04	MODAJJAJ 6 (Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) M Jarvis 3-8-11	P Robinson	72
10	(12)	0	PORTSCATHO 22 (Value For Money Racing) Miss J Doyle 3-8-11	A Whelan (5)	78
11	(8)	2	RICHELIEU 99 (BF) (Cliveden Stud) H Cecil 3-8-11	W Ryan	80
12	(4)	3	ROUSSI 12 (Mana Al Maktoum) M Stoute 3-8-11	W R Swinburn	87
13	(5)	50-6432	TAKLIF 13 (BF) (M Al Maktoum) B Hills 3-8-11	W Carson	●
14	(7)	0	THREE WILD DAYS 19 (The Ivy Syndicate) T Tate 3-8-11	A Culhane	–
15	(15)	400	ALL THE TIME 6 (Capt J Macdonald-Buchanan) P Cole 3-8-6	J Weaver	88
16	(3)	5-0	AUTUMN WINGS 158 (K Abdulla) B Hills 3-8-6	Pat Eddery	–
17	(19)	0	CALCANDO 92 (Mrs N Napier) E Weymes 3-8-6	Dale Gibson	–
18	(1)		CLEAR ATTRACTION (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 3-8-6	D Harrison	–
19	(14)	0430	FRAGARIA 16 (B,BF) (D Back) I Balding 3-8-6	Paul Eddery	86
20	(16)	44	SILVER SINGER 19 (R Evans) D Loder 3-8-6	L Dettori	85

BETTING: 7-2 Taklif, 5-1 Clear Attraction, Silver Singer, 6-1 Roussi, 7-1 Richelieu, 12-1 Darter, 16-1 others.

1994: ISLE OF PINES 3-8-6 W Ryan (10-1) H Cecil 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

MODAJJAJ 14¾l 4th of 8 to Mostabshir in maiden at York (1m 2f 85yd, good to firm) with ALL THE TIME 8l 7th. RICHELIEU short-head 2nd of 6 to Razana in maiden at Chepstow (1m 2f, good to firm). ROUSSI 6l 3rd of 15 to Rosy Hue in maiden at Goodwood (1m 2f, good). TAKLIF 1l 2nd of 15 to Harbour Island in maiden at Lingfield (1m 6f, soft). FRAGARIA 2½l 3rd of 6 to Danlece in maiden at Warwick (1m, firm) on penultimate start. SILVER SINGER 8¼l 4th of 16 to Merry Festival in maiden here (1m 2f 120yd, good).
Selection: TAKLIF

5.30 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND HAWTHORN MAIDEN STAKES (Div II: 2-Y-O: £4,320: 7f 30yd) (9 runners)

1	(1)	0	BALLYKISSANGEL 108 (Kendal White & Co Ltd) N Bycroft 9-0	K Fallon	–
2	(4)		CLASSIC COLOURS (Classic Bloodstock Plc) S Williams 9-0	A Mackay	–
3	(9)	4	DOMBEY 13 (Lady Rothschild) R Charlton 9-0	J Reid	●
4	(8)	4	FOG CITY 42 (J Sung) W Jarvis 9-0	Pat Eddery	87
5	(6)	4	NAME OF OUR FATHER 14 (Oak Cliff Foals of 1993 Plus 2) J Gosden 9-0	L Dettori	91
6	(2)	000	WHAT JIM WANTS 8 (J Clayton) J O'Neill 9-0	S D Williams	–
7	(7)	00	YOUNG SAFFY 30 (F Gillespie) Mrs M Reveley 9-0	A Culhane	–
8	(5)	0	CIRCLED 26 (Mrs J Corbett) B Hills 8-9	M Hills	87
9	(3)		RAIN CLOUD (W Haigh) W Haigh 8-9	Dale Gibson	–

BETTING: 6-4 Dombey, 2-1 Name Of Our Father, 3-1 Fog City, 7-1 Circled, 14-1 Young Saffy, 16-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS

DOMBEY 4¾l 4th of 23 to Astor Place in maiden at Newmarket (7f, good). FOG CITY 9l 4th of 12 to Bullfinch in maiden auction at Sandown (7f, good to firm). NAME OF OUR FATHER 4¾l 4th of 12 to Final Stab in maiden at Salisbury (7f, good to soft). CIRCLED 11l 8th of 10 to Wild Rumour in conditions race at Newbury (7f, good to soft).
Selection: DOMBEY

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Chepstow

Going: good to soft, soft in places

2.15 (1m 4f 23yd) 1. JAGELLON (J Reid, 11-2); 2. Granby Bell (P Fessey, 14-1); 3. Cuango (W Ryan, 9-1); 4. Nessun Doro (R Perham, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 5-1 fav Glonana, 11-2 Snowy Petrel (5th), 13-2 Ballynakelly, 9 El Volador, 10 Tappeto (6th), 12 Dreams End, 16 Koathary, Monsoor, Uncharted Waters, 33 Fabulous Mtoto, 50 Colonel Colt, Jean De Florette, Triple Tie, 66 Irrepressible. 18 ran. ¾l, 1¼l, ½l, ½l, sh hd. W Muir at Lambourn. Tote £7.30; £2.00, £3.30, £1.50, £13.60. DF £79.00. Trio £356.60. CSF £79.76. Tricast £649.65.

2.45 (1m 2f 36yd) 1. STRUTTING (J Reid, 10-11 fav); 2. Celtic Fringe (W Ryan, 7-4); 3. Miss Haversham (K Darley, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 50 Ozubeck (4th). 4 ran. 8l, 1¾l, 25l. R Hannon at East Everleigh. Tote £1.70. DF £1.60. CSF £2.74.

3.15 (7f 16yd) 1. JIBEREEN (Declan Murphy, 3-1 fav); 2. Cee-Jay-Ay (Carl Llewellyn, 14-1); 3. Shepherd Market (Ray Cochrane, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Birchwood Sun, 11-2 Chili Heights (4th), 13-2 First Gold (5th), 8 Comeonup, 14 Astral Invader, Great Hall, 16 Try-Haitai, 25 Warning Shot (6th), 50 Kelly Mac. 12 ran. ¾l, 2½l, 1¼l, nk, 2½l. G Lewis at Epsom. Tote £3.20; £1.60, £3.40, £2.10. DF £23.30. Trio £194.80. CSF £41.42. Tricast £349.62.

3.45 (1m 14yd) 1. MEDIA EXPRESS (R Cochrane, 14-1); 2. Dowsong (R Perham, 11-2); 3. Daring Ryde (J D Smith, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 6-5 fav Yubralee, 11-2 Jackatack (5th), 11 Best Kept Secret (6th), 16 Ott The Air, 20 Causley, 25 Kissavos, Pash (4th), 33 Cool Tactician, Hunza Story, Mixed Mood, Sea Spouse, 50 Pacific Overture, 66 Air Of Mystery, Celestial Waters, Most Becoming, My Jazzmyn. 19 ran. NR: Noeprob. 2½l, 3½l, ¾l, ½l, nk. M Brittain at Newmarket. Tote £21.20; £3.20, £1.90, £35.10. DF £33.60. Trio £225.40. CSF £86.44. No bid.

4.15 (6f 16yd) 1. SUBZERO (K Darley, 6-4 fav); 2. No Monkey Nuts (J Carroll, 9-2); 3. Coffee 'n Cream (Dane O'Neill, 7-4). ALSO RAN: 6 Barranak, 16 Cassimere (5th), 33 Monty (4th), 66 Andsome Boy (6th), 100 Governors Fortune. 8 ran. 2½l, 2½l, 7l, 2½l, 3½l. M Stoute at Newmarket. Tote £2.50; £1.10, £1.30, £1.60. DF £5.40. CSF £8.91.

4.45 (6f 16yd) 1. CHALAMONT (J Reid, 10-11 fav); 2. Trafalgar Lady (K Darley, 9-2); 3. Wildwood Flower (Dane O'Neill, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 Polish Spring (4th), 33 Charlton Imp (6th), Subfusk, 66 Little Millie (5th). 7 ran. ½l, ½l, 7l, ¾l, 7l. P Chapple-Hyam at Manton. Tote £1.90; £1.10, £2.50. DF £2.70. CSF £5.35.

5.15 (5f 16yd) 1. TINKER OSMASTON (J F Egan, 12-1); 2. To The Roof (G Hind, 16-1); 3. Domicksky (P P Murphy, 7-1); 4. Leigh Crofter (D Griffiths, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Sing With The Band, 5-1 Malibu Man (6th), 14-1 Lloc, 16-1 Friendly Brave, Pharaoh's Dancer, Jezebelle, Prima Silk, Runs In The Family, 20-1 Dancing Sioux, Grand Chapeau, Halliard (5th), Walk The Beat, 25-1 My Cherrywell, 50-1 Bold Gem, Risky Royal. 19 ran. NR: Millesime. 1l, 1½l, 1l, sh hd, hd. M Saunders, Wells. Tote £13.70; £2.70, £3.80, £2.50, £3.30. DF £114.00. Trio £330.30. CSF £193.38. Tricast £1,349.65.

Placepot: £566.10. Quadpot: £44.20 (part won; pool of £29.90 carried forward to Haydock today).

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: SPRUNG RHYTHM
(2.10 Exeter)

Next best: Charlie Sillett
(3.00 Haydock Park)

The Times Private Handicapper (Gerald Hubbard) top-rated Aljawab (10-1) at Leicester yesterday.

Leicester

Going: good

1.30 (7f 9yd) 1. Don Micheletto (M Hills, 7-2); 2. Winter Romance (9-2); 3. Balladur (7-4 fav). 14 ran. Nk, 4l. G Wragg. Tote £7.90; £1.10, £1.30, £1.50. DF £20.30. CSF £20.13. Trio £36.00.

2.00 (7f 9yd) 1. Masehaab (W Carson, 2-15 fav); 2. Magic Lake (12-1); 3. Baloustar (10-1). 4 ran. 1¾l, 8l. J Dunlop. Tote £1.10. DF £7.40. CSF £2.31.

2.30 (7f 9yd) 1. Nashaat (J Stack, 20-1); 2. Mary's Case (7-1); 3. Deeply Vale (25-1); 4. Blushing Grenadier (9-1). Cape Colony 5-2 fav. 20 ran. ¾l, 2l. N Walker. Tote £41.50; £11.70, £1.80, £4.60, £2.10. DF £228.60. Trio £433.20. CSF £166.69. Tricast £3,285.55.

3.00 (1m 1f 218yd) 1. Aljawab (G Carter, 10-1, Private Handicapper's top rating); 2. Curtelace (11-2 fav); 3. Lady Highfield (16-1); 4. Rival Bid (7-1). 19 ran. Hd, nk. J Dunlop. Tote £10.90; £4.00, £1.80, £3.50, £3.10. DF £37.00. Trio £254.20. CSF £67.42. Tricast £844.99. Thames Side, who finished second was disqualified and placed last.

3.30 (1m 3f 183yd) 1. Berkeley Bounder (Pat Eddery, 11-8 fav); 2. Elementary (3-1); 3. Sea Victor (7-1). 22 ran. 2½l, ¾l. M Pipe. Tote £2.70; £1.20, £1.90, £1.80. DF £2.80. Trio £7.00. CSF £7.58.

4.00 (1m 8yd) 1. Forest Buck (Pat Eddery, 4-1 fav); 2. Jiyush (8-1); 3. Lakeline Legend (5-1). 17 ran. 1¾l, 3l. H Cecil. Tote £4.40; £2.70, £3.70, £2.80. DF £14.10. Trio £96.60. CSF £38.13.

4.30 (7f 9yd) 1. Gold Disc (Pat Eddery, 13-8 fav); 2. Alambar (16-1); 3. Domak Amaam (9-4). 12 ran. NR: Young Mazaad. 2½l, ¾l. B Hills. Tote £2.30; £1.20, £3.90, £1.60. DF £33.40. Trio £12.00. CSF £26.95.

5.00 (1m 8yd) 1. Shamaq (R Hills, 11-4 fav); 2. Karayb (5-1); 3. Ron's Secret (9-2). 8 ran. ½l, ½l. H Thomson Jones. Tote £3.10; £2.00, £3.20, £1.20. DF £20.60. CSF £15.90.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £31,140.25 carried forward to Haydock today).
Placepot: £25.50. Quadpot: £19.10

WETHERBY

THUNDERER

2.20 On A Pedestal. 2.50 Vavasir. 3.20 New Inn. 3.50 Toogood To Be True. 4.20 Down The Fell. 4.50 South Westerly.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.20 GOLDSBOROUGH JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (£3,050: 2m) (14 runners)

1		ALKARINE M Bielby 10-12	M Brennan	–
2	4	BORROWBY 11F M W Easterby 10-12	R Dunwoody	–
3		DAWN MISSION 40F M H Easterby 10-12	L Wyer	–
4	3	DONE WELL 11 P Monteith 10-12	A Dobbin	–
5		HIGHBANK 19F Mrs M Reveley 10-12	P Niven	–
6		HIGH FLOWN 39F Ronald Thompson 10-12	W Fry (5)	–
7		LANCER 77F J Johnson 10-12	M A Fitzgerald	–
8		PERSISTENT 25F M H Easterby 10-12	J Callaghan	–
9		SAMAKA HARA 18F W Cunningham 10-12	E Husband (5)	–
10		SARASI 52F M Camacho 10-12	M Dwyer	–
11		CHAMPAGNE N DREAMS 11F D Nicholls 10-7	S Mason	–
12	4	CONEYGREE 25 J Wharton 10-7	B Dalton	–
13		NEW BROOM 19F M H Easterby 10-7	A S Smith	–
14		ON A PEDESTAL 9F Mrs J Ramsden 10-7	R Garritty	–

4-1 On A Pedestal, 9-2 Lancer, 5-1 Highbank, 6-1 Done Well, 8-1 Champagne N Dreams, 10-1 Persistent, Sarasi, 14-1 others.

2.50 BOBBY RENTON NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,548: 3m 110yd) (5)

1	4P-1	VAVASIR 11 (F,G) Miss L Russell 9-11-10	P Niven	89
2	-43P	SCARF 21 (B,S) J J O'Neill 7-10-10	M Dwyer	98
3	13F3	PERUVIAN GALE 7 (F) Mrs S Smith 6-10-6	Richard Guest	●
4	56-F	ASK FOR BARNEY 11 B Rothwell 6-10-0	R Supple	–
5	0P-4	KUSHDALAY 18 C Parker 6-10-0	B Storey	–

6-4 Vavasir, 3-1 Scarf, 4-1 Ask For Barney, 5-1 Peruvian Gale, 10-1 Kushdalay

3.20 YORKSHIRE-TYNE TEES TELEVISION HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,326: 2m) (8)

1	2F0-	BEND SABLE 176 (CD,F,S) F Storey 5-11-10	B Storey	●
2	632-	DANCING RIVER 219 (CD,F,G,S) N Chamberlain 9-11-9	M A Fitzgerald	92
3	2-22	NEW INN 11 (D,F) S Gollings 4-11-8	R Dunwoody	86
4	143-	STAY AWAKE 250 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-11-2	P Niven	–
5	403-	THORNTON GATE 191 (CD,G,S) M H Easterby 6-11-2	L Wyer	97
6	123-	INGLETONIAN 201 (D,S) B Wilkinson 6-11-0	D Bentley	98
7	315-	AIDE MEMOIRE 309 (S) Mrs R Broad 6-10-6	Richard Guest	95
8	22P-	TRESIDDER 134 (D,F,G,S) M W Easterby 13-10-1	E Husband (5)	–

11-4 New Inn, 3-1 Stay Awake, 7-2 Thornton Gate, 6-1 Ingletonian, 8-1 Bend Sable, 12-1 Dancing River, 16-1 Aide Memoire, 25-1 others

3.50 GORDON FOSTER HANDICAP CHASE (£4,523: 2m 4f 110yd) (5)

1	2310	MR JAMBOREE 11 (CD,F,G) A Bailey 9-11-10	A Thornton	94
2	/1P-	MERRY MASTER 361 (C,D,F,G,S) A Harrison 11-11-3	Mr M Armytage	98
3	545-	BEAUCADEAU 154 (CD,F,G) M Barnes 9-10-9	A Dobbin	●
4	U22-	TOOGOOD TO BE TRUE 207 (G,S) M H Easterby 7-10-6	L Wyer	97
5	-323	DE JORDAAN 5 (C,BF,F,G) W Cunningham 8-10-1	N Smith	93

5-4 Toogood To Be True, 3-1 Mr Jamboree, 4-1 Merry Master, 6-1 others.

4.20 HALLFIELD NOVICES HURDLE (£3,050: 2m 4f 110yd) (12)

1	211-	DOWN THE FELL 137 (D,G,S) J Johnson 6-11-12	M A Fitzgerald	●
2	4341	GEORGE ASHFORD 25F (F) K Morgan 5-11-5	A S Smith	–
3	0-	CATAMIL 888 Mrs S Smith 6-10-12	Richard Guest	–
4	/05-	COULIN LOCH 175 M Wilkinson 6-10-12	C Llewellyn	–
5	86	DON'T TELL TOM 15 J Wade 5-10-12	K Jones	69
6	000/	HERBALIST 585 (G) J Hellens 6-10-12	A Thornton	–
7	600-	LITTLE TINCTURE 177 Mrs T McInnes Skinner 5-10-12	S Wynne	84
8	355P	SPORTING SPIRIT 25 G Kelly 5-10-12	Mr C Mulhall	80
9	UR-2	DESERT FIGHTER 11 (BF) Mrs M Reveley 4-10-11	P Niven	96
10	23-	SIMPLY DASHING 158 M H Easterby 4-10-11	L Wyer	–
11	U0/R	OUR BLOSSOM 12 F O'Mahony 7-10-7	Mr K Whelan (5)	–
12	/06-	STAGGERING 515 Mrs A Naughton 6-10-7	T Jenks	–

9-4 Down The Fell, 3-1 Desert Fighter, 7-2 George Ashford, 9-1 others

4.50 ASKHAM RICHARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,678: 3m 1f) (5)

1	24-4	SOUTH WESTERLY 116 Mrs M Reveley 7-11-10	P Niven	90
2	P-21	CHERRY POKEY 12 (F) M Wane 8-11-5	J Callaghan	93
3	54-0	CRUNCH TIME 11 C Broad 6-10-4	G Hogan (5)	91
4	0P0-	WILLERFOSS 176 B Rothwell 5-10-4	R Supple	–
5	5P-4	ARITAM 32 T Carr 6-10-1	B Storey	●

10-11 South Westerly, 4-1 Cherry Pokey, 9-2 Crunch Time, 6-1 others

Williamson comfortable

NORMAN WILLIAMSON faces up to six months out of the saddle after breaking his right femur when falling from Joe White at Sedgefield on Monday. He was described as "comfortable" yesterday by a spokeswoman for North Tees General Hospital, where he underwent surgery on his broken leg.

His fall means that the rides on Cheltenham Gold Cup winner Master Oats and Champion Hurdle victor Alderbrook are available. However, a decision as to who will partner the pair has yet to be made.

EXETER

THUNDERER

2.10 Sprung Rhythm. 2.40 Saxon Magic. 3.10 Millies Own. 3.40 Bright Sapphire. 4.10 Clifton Beat. 4.40 Grey Smoke. 5.10 Here He Comes.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

2.10 DEAN & DYBALL NOVICES HURDLE (£2,320: 2m 3f) (14 runners)

1	40-5	COPPER COIL 6 W G M Turner 5-10-12	M Griffiths (7)	
2	625-	DARING KING 168 M Bolton 5-10-12	P Hide	
3	500-	FORTINA'S CONQUEST 177 B Smart 5-10-12	M Molloy (7)	
4	6/R	KEEP POPPING 8 S Knight 7-10-12	V Slattery	
5	060	MIRAMARE 76 C James 5-10-12	G Upton	
6	6/0-	ROMALITO 8F M Blanshard 5-10-12	D Gallagher	
7	/1-2	SPRUNG RHYTHM 11 (BF,F) K Bailey 5-10-12	T J Murphy (5)	
8	002/	THE SHAW TRADER 560 P Rodford 5-10-12	S Burrough	
9		MAKE A STAND 13F M Pipe 4-10-11	D Bridgwater	
10	00	THE CHAIRMAN 11 F Jordan 4-10-11	J Lodder	
11	350-	DESIGN 289 (G) C Broad 5-10-7	W Marston	
12	3F	FLEETING GLANCE 19 Miss L Wormacott 6-10-7	R Greene	
13	0-05	TUSCAN BUTTERFLY 32 L Cottrell 6-10-7	Mr L Jefford	
14		LILLY THE FILLY Mrs B Waring 4-10-6	E Byrne	

9-4 Sprung Rhythm, 3-1 Make A Stand, 9-2 Romalito, 6-1 Daring King, 8-1 The Shaw Trader, 12-1 Keep Popping, 14-1 Miramare, 20-1 others.

2.40 DEAN & DYBALL MARES ONLY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,916: 2m 1f 110yd) (8)

1	301-	UP THE JUNCTION 131F (G) Mrs P Duffield 5-12-0	P Holley
2	-121	SAXON MAGIC 19 (D,F,S) J Bennett 5-10-13	L Harvey
3	P4P-	PRUDENT PEGGY 144 (S) R Frost 8-10-8	J Frost
4	P00-	ALACUE 328 B Alner 5-10-0	Mr P Henley (7)
5	F-54	THEM TIMES 35 F Jordan 6-10-0	J Lodder
6	0P-2	RENT DAY 6 J Mullins 6-10-0	S Curran (3)
7	000-	KOO'S PROMISE 223 C Popham 4-10-0	T Dascombe (7)
8	-454	TIME TO MOVE 19 (B) P Jones 5-10-0	Mr J Culloty (7)

7-4 Saxon Magic, 3-1 Time To Move, 7-2 Them Times, 9-2 Up The Junction, 6-1 Rent Day, 20-1 Prudent Peggy, 50-1 others.

3.10 DEAN & DYBALL CHALLENGE TROPHY NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,146: 2m 1f 110yd) (11)

1	2PP-	MAGELLAN BAY 195 Mrs J Pitman 7-11-11	W Marston
2	F42-	ROYAL SEGOS 151 Mrs P Duffield 8-11-7	P Holley
3	-P23	MILLIES OWN 13 (G) P Hobbs 8-11-3	G Tormey (3)
4	063-	SPEARHEAD AGAIN 151 S Christian 6-11-3	J Osborne
5	4-60	OXFORD QUILL 11 (S) R Curtis 8-10-13	D Morris
6	200-	CAPTAIN BERT 165 B De Haan 6-10-9	NON-RUNNER
7	300-	ABAVARD 203 (S) R Frost 6-10-7	J Frost
8	2/3-	GAVASKAR 360 (F) G Balding 6-10-4	A P McCoy
9	02-U	WHYFOR 19 S Knight 7-10-0	D Salter (5)
10	PPP-	THE MINISTER 337 P Champion 6-10-0	B Powell
11	FPP-	TUDOR WEDDING 313 P Alner 10-10-0	C Maude

5-2 Gavaskar, 3-1 Royal Segos, 9-2 Magellan Bay, 5-1 Millies Own, 8-1 Spearhead Again, 12-1 Oxford Quill, Abavard, 14-1 others.

Blinkered first time

EXETER: 3.40 Dominion Treasure, Slippery Max. 4.10 Valiant Toski. HAYDOCK PARK: 2.00 Finisterre. 3.30 Heathyards Rock. 5.00 Fragaria

3.40 DEAN & DYBALL CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,777: 2m 3f) (11)

1	00-P	BOOGIE BOPPER 61 (V,S) M Pipe 6-12-0	O Burrows (5)
2	0-3U	POLK 32 (S) M Pipe 6-11-10	B Moore (7)
3	143-	MINSTER'S MADAM 231 (V,S) Mrs L Murphy 4-11-9	R Massey
4	6-65	DOMINION TREASURE 26 (B,C,F,G,S) R Baker 10-11-8	S Lyons
5	2436	POETIC FANCY 41 (F) N Twiston-Davies 4-11-5	S Joynes (5)
6	0-21	BRIGHT SAPPHIRE 104 (F,G,S) F Jordan 9-11-4	T Eley
7	684-	SMOKEBRIDGE GRAS 183 W G M Turner 8-11-2	M Griffiths (5)
8	5P34	SLIPPERY MAX 34 (V,F,G) R Ackles 11-11-1	G Tormey
9	406-	LAVALIGHT 182 (F) R Hodges 8-10-10	T Dascombe (3)
10	263-	MILDRED SOPHIA 159 (S) N Mitchell 8-10-7	Sophie Mitchell
11	0-34	GLENCOE BOY 47 (F) P Jones 12-10-0	S Rigdon (5)

3-1 Bright Sapphire, 7-2 Minster's Madam, 5-1 Poetic Fancy, 11-2 Smokebridge Gras, 6-1 Mildred Sophia, 7-1 Dominion Treasure, 14-1 others

4.10 WILLIAM HILL GOLDEN OLDIES STAKES (Invitation race: round I. £1,523: 1m 5f) (7)

1	22-3	CLIFTON BEAT 11 (S) P Hobbs 4-12-4	Philip Hobbs
2	035-	MY SWAN SONG 172 (F,G) J Smith 10-12-4	Peter Smith
3		VALIANT TOSKI 63F (B) M Pipe 4-12-4	David Hood
4		A FEW DOLLARS MORE H Oliver 5-12-0	Ron Hyett
5	256-	FOOLS ERRAND 196 (S) G Balding 5-12-0	Simon Earle
6		RAINBOW ROAD 469F M Pipe 4-12-0	Mike Gallemore
7	P0-	VINTAGE RED 330 N Twiston-Davies 5-12-0	Peter Scudamore

5-2 Clifton Beat, 7-2 Valiant Toski, Rainbow Road, 5-1 My Swan Song, Fools Errand, 14-1 Vintage Red, 50-1 A Few Dollars More

4.40 DEAN & DYBALL NOVICES CHASE (£4,012: 2m 6f 110yd) (9)

1	4311	POLDEN PRIDE 13 (F) G Balding 7-11-12	A P McCoy
2	2312	BANNTOWN BILL 11 (V,G,S) M Pipe 6-11-6	D Bridgwater
3	2-34	CELTIC LAIRD 18 (BF) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-0	W Marston
4	455-	DEVIOSITY 148 (F,G) N Ayliffe 8-11-0	J R Kavanagh
5	211-	HARWELL LAD 178P (F) R Alner 6-11-0	Mr R Nuttall
6	442-	MAREMMA GALE 155 N Mitchell 7-11-0	C Maude
7	P	TOMMY-GUN 18 R Rowe 8-11-0	D O'Sullivan
8	656F	TRUST DEED 8 (B,F,G) S Knight 7-11-0	G Upton
9	U1-U	GREY SMOKE 11 (S) Miss H Knight 5-10-12	J F Titley

9-4 Polden Pride, 11-4 Banntown Bill, 4-1 Harwell Lad, 5-1 Celtic Laird, 7-1 Maremma Gale, 8-1 Grey Smoke, 20-1 others

5.10 DEAN & DYBALL HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,596: 2m 1f 110yd) (7)

1	311F	BLAIR CASTLE 13 (CD,F) G Balding 4-12-0	Mr A Balding (7)
2	/32-	THE BLACK MONK 158 (V,CD,F,G,S) M Pipe 7-11-11	D Bridgwater
3	3-2U	HERE HE COMES 9 (G,S) R Strange 9-11-0	A P McCoy
4	253-	THE MINDER 159 (D,S) G Edwards 8-11-0	D Salter (5)
5	422-	DRESS DANCE 151 N Mitchell 5-10-13	Sophie Mitchell (5)
6	225-	TIME FOR A FLUTTER 214 (G) C James 6-10-13	Mr E James
7	4P0/	DURRINGTON 539 (D,S) M Bolton 9-10-0	P Hide

5-2 The Black Monk, 3-1 Blair Castle, 4-1 Dress Dance, 9-2 Here He Comes, 6-1 The Minder, 8-1 Time For A Flutter, 50-1 Durrington

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Miss H Knight, 19 winners from 45 runners, 42.2%; M Pipe, 81 from 250, 32.4%; C James, 6 from 22, 27.3%; R Rowe, 3 from 11, 27.3%; K Bailey, 7 from 28, 25.0%; Mrs P Duffield, 4 from 19, 21.1%.

JOCKEYS: J Osborne, 19 winners from 61 rides, 31.1%; J Titley, 3 from 11, 27.3%; T Dascombe, 3 from 14, 21.4%; P Holley, 9 from 50, 18.0%; L Harvey, 9 from 52, 17.3%; D Bridgwater, 10 from 58, 17.2%; A P McCoy, 5 from 31, 16.1%.

Latvia may end Ireland's hopes

Pressure builds on Charlton in vital qualifying match

From Peter Ball in Dublin

FOR the first time in his nine years as Ireland manager, Jack Charlton is under pressure. His team must beat Latvia here tonight to keep alive its hopes of qualifying for the European championship finals next summer.

It is not an experience that Charlton is enjoying. Behind the bluff exterior, he is surprisingly sensitive and there have been signs in the Dublin sunshine this week that the *pressure is taking its toll.*

Perhaps unsurprisingly, for until the past few months his *career as Ireland manager* has been a regal progress as the uncrowned king of Ireland. *He still enjoys popular support,* but a failure tonight could turn mutters of discontent into a *clamour* and will surely spell the end of his tenure before Christmas. Already, *names of his successor* are being canvassed in the corridors of the Football Association of Ireland's headquarters in one of Dublin's delightful Georgian terraces.

The decision, however, will depend, as always, on results. Less than six months ago, when Ireland beat Portugal, the group six leaders, the need to win this match looked unlikely; that there would be any question about them being capable of doing so was unthinkable. A lot, though, has happened in the intervening months.

"Our results have been unbelievably bad," Charlton said last week. "We've gone from the best against Portugal to absolutely nothing. I can't believe it. If you'd asked me in May, I'd have said we would have been virtually qualified by the end of June."

Instead, a bad summer was compounded by a potential disaster, the defeat last month by Austria in Vienna. Now, Ireland have to win both their games and rely on Portugal or Northern Ireland holding Austria. With a visit to Portugal in November, that is a formidable task even if Ireland win this evening. Latvia's recent record, with a win over Austria in Riga and a victory in Belfast, warns against complacency, but more will depend on how Ireland face up.

That has been Charlton's biggest concern this past week, expressed forcibly in an all-day session on Sunday. His main decision is who to *play in midfield,* although the failure to convert a host of chances in Liechtenstein has *also proved costly.* However, it is the sense that the team has forgotten — or abandoned — *its old destructive virtues* that is exercising Charlton.

He believes that the side *paid the penalty in Austria* for over-ambition and over-commitment to attack, leaving the defence exposed to the quick breaks that penalised them. With Astafjevs a particularly dangerous organiser, and Zeiberlins and Rinkus, useful goalscorers, in in the Latvia line-up — as Northern Ireland discovered — Charlton is determined to prevent that happening again.

"The two central midfield players are the key to the whole match — and the two centre backs," Charlton said. "You can't handle people if they are allowed to run at the back four. One of our midfield players has to hold in midfield. They don't pass through midfield, they run at you, and we haven't got a Paul McGrath in that area to do the defensive role."

As a consequence, with Roy Keane and Sheridan injured, Charlton is considering converting Phil Babb from centre *half to act as holding player* in front of the back four, a role filled with distinction by *McGrath in earlier years* and, at times, by Lawrenson.

The alternative would be to play Jason McAteer as a direct replacement for Keane, but Charlton was critical enough *of Keane's enthusiasm* for running forward to have doubts about risking McAteer *in that key role.* Instead, McAteer seems likely to play on the right, while John Aldridge, who has an excellent record against Latvia, will come in to add much-needed firepower in a 4-4-2 formation.

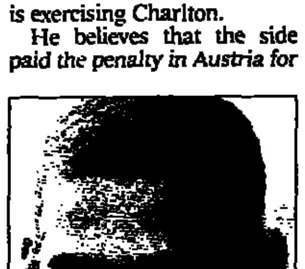
IRELAND (probable; 4-4-2): A Kelly (Sheffield United) — G Kelly (Leeds United), P McGrath (Aston Villa), A Kernaghan (Manchester City), T Phelan (Manchester City) — J McAteer (Liverpool), P Babb (Liverpool) A Townsend (Aston Villa), S Staunton (Aston Villa) — J Aldridge (Tranmere Rovers), N Quinn (Manchester City)

LATVIA (probable, 3-5-2). O Karavegevs — I Troclos, Y Sevlakovs, I Stepanov — M Zemnisky, V Babicevs, V Astafjevs, Y Ivanovs, A Zakreskevski — A Zeiberlins, V Rinkus.

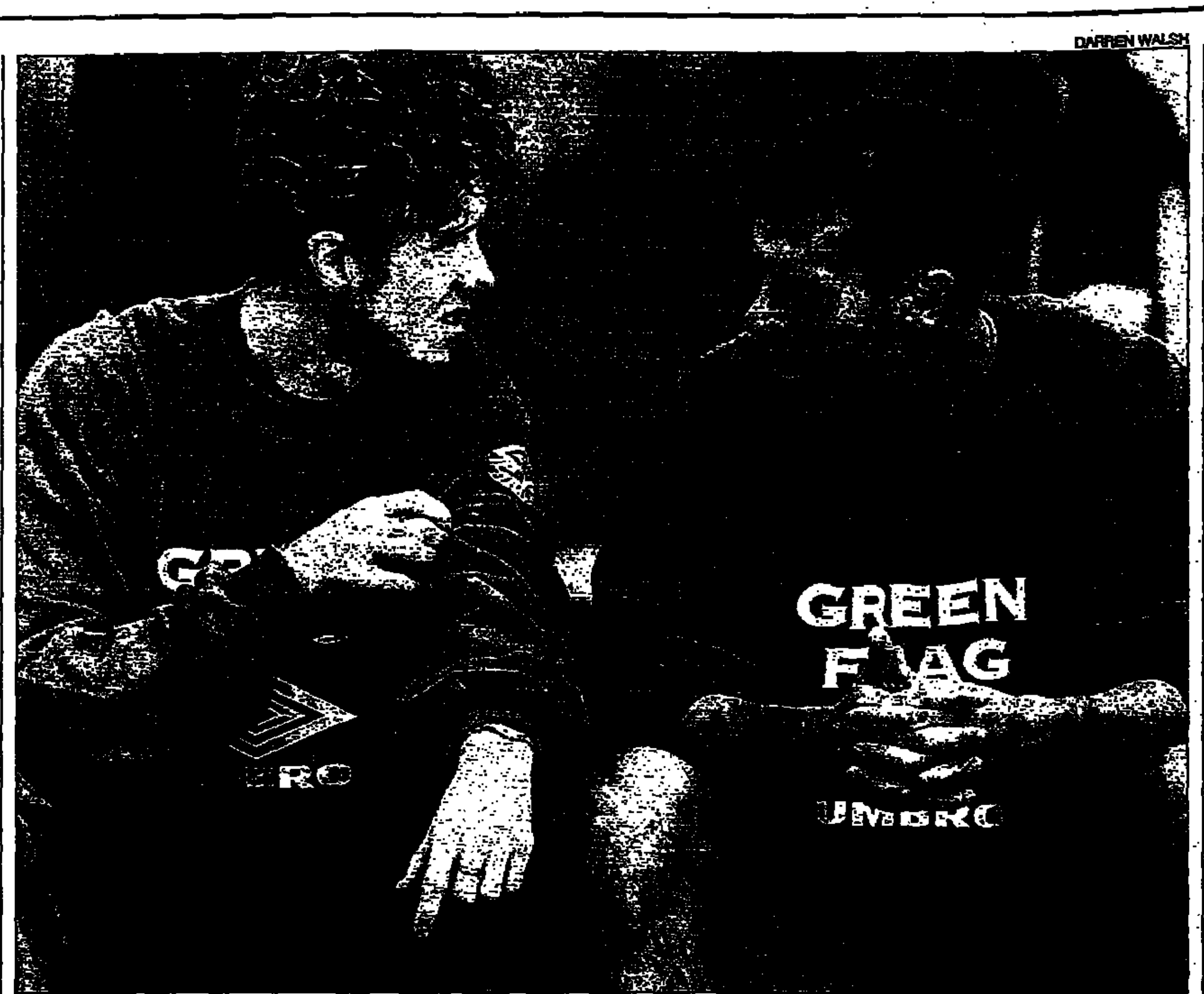
GROUP SIX

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	8	6	1	1	25	6	19
Austria	8	5	0	3	25	8	15
Ireland	8	4	2	2	15	7	14
Latvia	9	4	0	5	10	18	12
N Ireland	8	3	2	3	11	12	11
Liechtnstn	9	0	1	8	1	36	1

REMAINING FIXTURES: Today: Ireland v Latvia, Austria v Portugal, Liechtenstein v Northern Ireland. Nov 15: Portugal v Ireland, Northern Ireland v Austria.



Babb: containing role



DARREN WALSH

Steve McManaman, left, and Robert Lee, pause during training in Oslo yesterday for England's match tonight

Quinn out to tax group minnows

Russell Kempson in Liechtenstein on the Northern Ireland striker's ambitious goal

Anyone requesting information about Liechtenstein, from even the most comprehensive of archives, is more likely to unearth details about Roy Lichtenstein, the American pop artist, than the minuscule principality sandwiched *between Switzerland and Austria.* At least money — lots of it — remains a common theme. *Lichtenstein sold a painting* for $2.4 million (about £1.5 million) last year, while his *Alpine near namesake is* no less renowned for its secret bank accounts.

It is unto the land of milk and honey, all 61 square miles of it, that Northern Ireland have trekked in search of group six success in the European football championship qualifying competition. Three points here this afternoon, a distinct probability, could keep alive their slender hopes of reaching the finals; three goals from Jimmy Quinn, a distinct possibility, would make him Ireland's all-time leading marksman.

Quinn, 35, has 11 goals from 44 appearances, and needs a hat-trick to surpass the 13 of *Colin Clarke. In global terms,* it would barely rank alongside the exploits of Pelé, *Charlton or Muller, yet it* would still be an intensely proud moment for the joint player-manager of Reading.

"It would mean a lot to me, of course it would," Quinn said. "It's only as I've got nearer the mark that I've really thought about it. I've had a couple of goals rather unfairly disallowed in recent matches, so, by rights, I reckon I should really be level with Colin."

Quinn is of an age at which, in football speak, every game and every goal is a bonus. A heel injury has restricted his *contribution to three starts for* Reading this season, in which he has scored twice, while the *managerial responsibilities,* that he has shared with Mick Gooding since last December, are an *additional* burden.

"I think a lot of players are pressurised into retiring too early," he said. "If they have a bad game, people say they're past it, but I'm still enjoying my football and I'll know when it's time to pack it in."

With Dowie and Gillespie suspended, Bryan Hamilton, the Northern Ireland manager, will hand Quinn his record-breaking opportunity.

"Jimmy has been a great player for us over the years and it will be lovely if he did it," Hamilton said. "Really, though, I'm more concerned with winning. There are no ifs and *buts* any more. I still fancy Portugal and the Republic of Ireland to go *through to the finals,* but a victory here might just give us a slight chance."

Had Northern Ireland's away form — they are unbeaten in the qualifiers outside *Belfast — been repeated at* home, Hamilton would not be relying on unlikely mathematics. Yet, no matter the long-term implications, events today could still signal celebrations among the Irish party.

NORTHERN IRELAND (probable, 4-4-2): A Fettis (Hull City) — S Morrow (Arsenal), B Hunter (Wrexham), C Hill (Leicester City), N Worthington (Leeds United) — G McMahon (Tottenham Hotspur), S Lomas (Manchester City), N Lennon (Crewe Alexandra), M Hughes (Strasbourg/West Ham United) — J Quinn (Reading), P Gray (Sunderland).

Scotland's forwards are offered chance to unwind

From Kevin McCarra in Stockholm

SINCE adversity is Scotland's *natural habitat,* the stress-free setting of the international match tonight against Sweden *at the Rasunda* Stadium here may take some getting used to. The austere virtue of sound defence has brought *them to* the verge of the European championship finals next summer, but the match this evening invites Craig Brown's team to be exuberant.

Gary McAllister, the Scotland captain, conceded that the crucial expertise has been supplied by the goalkeepers and markers in the squad. The midfield player himself confessed to scoring only four times in 35 appearances, the *last of the goals,* a penalty, coming against the CIS all of three years ago in the European championship finals held in Sweden.

McAllister may accordingly feel glad to be back here. "It is difficult to score in international football," he said, "and the days of five and six-goal victories are over, but we must start producing. We do have the guys that can do it."

Scotland need daring deeds more than acts of faith. Adding verve to the midfield and goals to the forwards' records are a matter of urgency if Scotland's likely trip to England next summer is to bring more than another bout of drabness. Brown's team are almost sure to be at the finals, but await news from other *countries this evening* to verify the assumption.

Should Greece fail to win in *Russia, Scotland will be confirmed* as runners-up in group eight. The six best second-placed nations *qualify* for England automatically, and, Scotland will be among them if Spain can win in Denmark in group two. For the moment, though, Brown still has the dread of a play-off at Anfield on December 13.

Others covet even his anxiety. After taking third place at the 1994 World Cup, Sweden have floundered in the European championship qualifiers and can finish no better than third, behind Switzerland and Turkey, in group three.

Tommy Svensson's team has been disrupted, though, and Tomas Brolin, of Parma, who plays this evening, is still scavenging for form after six months of injury. The manager toyed with the idea of *resigning,* but widespread public support persuaded him to stay.

Scotland, proud of a record that contains no defeats this year, aim to add to the local *disenchantment. The manager* will begin the match with John Robertson and John McGinlay in attack, but is eager to introduce Eoin Jess at some stage.

SWEDEN (3-1-4-2): B Andersson (Orgryte IS) — T Lucic (Västra Frölunda IF), J Björklund (Vicenza), P Andersson (Borussia Mönchengladbach) — S Schwarz (Fiorentina) — N Alexandersson (Halmstads BK), T Brolin (Parma), N Gudmundsson (Halmstads BK), M Nilsson (IFK Gothenburg) — K Andersson (Bari), J Pettersson (Malmö FF).

SCOTLAND (3-1-4-2): J Leighton (Hibernian) — C Calderwood (Tottenham Hotspur), S McKimmie (Aberdeen), C Hendry (Blackburn Rovers) — A McLaren (Rangers) — C Burley (Chelsea), G McAllister (Leeds United), J Collins (Celtic), T Boyd (Celtic) — J Robertson (Heart of Midlothian), J McGinlay (Bolton Wanderers).

Germans are wary of repeat

By Our Sports Staff

THE sight of Ian Rush racing away from a flat-footed defence and squirting a shot ball past a flailing goalkeeper is a favourite *memory* of Welsh football's recent past. It was 1991, the static defenders were *German and Wales were on* their way to a famous victory at the National Stadium in Cardiff. *It seems a long time* ago, but Wales has not forgotten Rush's finest hour in *international football.*

Neither, it appears, have the Germans. "We have very bad memories of Wales," Matthias Sammer, the Germany sweeper, said glumly as his team arrived in the Principality before the countries' meeting tonight in group seven of the European championship qualifiers. "We know it will be a tough game."

Jürgen Klinsmann, back on British soil for the first time since his move from Tottenham Hotspur to Bayern Munich *in the summer,* agreed. "It is going to be a very difficult game; the Welsh will *battle hard,"* he said. "We will try to play the game at speed and be creative, but we know it's not going to be easy."

At least Germany are in form. They thrashed Moldavia 6-1 on Sunday to keep alive their hopes of overhauling Bulgaria at the top of the group and qualifying automatically for the finals. Wales, too, beat Moldavia in their last game, but though their 1-0 victory in Cardiff offered an encouraging start to Bobby Gould's spell as manager, 1-0 is a long way from 6-1.

At least Gould has Ryan Giggs back to full fitness and good form, although injuries have ruled out Rush and Mark Hughes, illness *has* claimed Adrian Williams and Chris Coleman is suspended. *Gould, ringing the changes,* has given Stephen Jenkins, the Swansea City defender, his *debut in a reshaped defence.* Andy Melville and Nathan Blake are recalled. Gould and *his players will* probably be happy with a repeat of the 1-1 draw the teams shared in Düsseldorf last April.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	8	7	1	0	22	5	22
Germany	8	6	1	1	22	8	19
Georgia	8	4	0	4	10	9	12
Albania	9	2	1	6	9	15	7
Wales	8	2	1	5	7	18	7
Moldavia	9	2	0	7	8	25	6

REMAINING FIXTURES: Today: Wales v Germany. Nov 15: Germany v Bulgaria, Albania v Wales, Moldava v Georgia.

WALES (4-3-3): N Southall (Everton) — S Jenkins (Swansea City), K Symons (Manchester City), A Melville (Sunderland), M Bowen (Norwich City) — B Horne (Everton), M Pembridge (Sheffield Wednesday), G Speed (Leeds United) — D Saunders (Galatasaray), N Blake (Sheffield United), R Giggs (Manchester United).

GERMANY (1-4-3-2): A Köpke (Eintracht Frankfurt) — M Sammer (Borussia Dortmund) — M Babbel (Bayern Munich), S Freund (Borussia Dortmund), T Helmer (Bayern Munich), C Ziege (Bayern Munich) — A Möller (Borussia Dortmund), T Hässler (Karlsruhe SC), D Eilts (Werder Bremen) — J Klinsmann (Bayern Munich), H Herrlich (Borussia Dortmund).

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket match*

European championship
Qualifying group six
Liechtenstein v Northern Ireland
(at National Stadium, Vaduz, 3.0)
Ireland v Latvia
(at Lansdowne Road, Dublin)
Qualifying group seven
Wales v Germany
(at National Stadium, Cardiff)
International matches
Norway v England
(at Ulleval Stadium, Oslo, 8.15)
Sweden v Scotland
(at Rasunda Stadium, Stockholm, 7.0)
Anglo-Italian Cup
Group A
Genoa v Luton (8.30)
Oldham v Cesena (7.45)
Perugia v Birmingham (8.30)
Port Vale v Ancona (7.45)
Group B
Brescia v Ipswich (8.30)
Reggiana v Southend (3.0)
Stoke v Salernitana (7.45)
West Bromwich v Foggia (7.45)

FA CUP: Third qualifying round replays: Dunstable City v Barrow; Sittingbourne v Bromley; Solihull v Hednesford (7.45).
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Boston v Emley. First division: Bradford Park Avenue v Alfreton; Curzon Ashton v Warrington; Leigh v Workington.
MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division Cup: Second round, first leg: Old Hatfield v Milton Keynes.
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple v Backwell; Bideford v Crediton; Brislington v Frome, Bridport v Elmore.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division (7.0). Nottingham Forest v Liverpool; Tranmere Rovers v Sheffield Wednesday. Second division: Barnsley v Blackpool (7.0); Burnley v Bradford (7.15). Huddersfield Town v Aston Villa (7.0). Hull v Sunderland (7.0)
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Brighton v Luton (2.0); Bristol City v Norwich; Crystal Palace v Southampton (at Dulwich Hamlet FC, 7.0). League Cup: Bournemouth v Plymouth (2.0).
ULSTER CUP: Semi-final: Glenavon v Portadown (at Mourneview Park, Lurgan).
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Rossendale v Eastwood H.
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Felixstowe v Cornard; Stowmarket v Lowestoft.
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Eastleigh v Petersfield.
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Oakwood v Hassocks; Portfield v Shoreham.
HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bourne v Holbeach; Raunds v Kempston; St Neots v Wootton. Senior Cup: First round: O S and L Corby v Northampton Spencer.
FA YOUTH CUP: Second qualifying round: Barnet v Potters Bar.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools Fuji Film Trophy: Second round: Bristol v Swindon (at Bristol Manor Farm FC, 7.0); Lowestoft v Ipswich (at Lowestoft FC, 7.45); *Hull v North Leicester (at Dunswell, 7.15).* George Reader Trophy: Southampton v Aldershot (at The Dell)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Halifax World Cup
Group one
England v Fiji
(at Wigan, 7.30)

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Harlequins v Exeter Univ (7.30); Newcastle Gosforth v Durham Univ (7.30); Nottingham v Loughborough Univ (7.15); Rugby v H M Prisons (7.30), Saracens v Brunel Univ (Imber Court, 7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Men's European championship: England v Estonia (at Granby Halls, Leicester, 8.0).
SPEEDWAY (7.30 unless stated): Premier League: Hull v Peterborough. Revenge Challenge: Poole v Swindon. Challenge: Long Eaton v Cradley Heath v Wolverhampton.
TENNIS: Men's and women's satellite tournaments (Birmingham).

THE TIMES

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7/1 FJORTOFT | 16/1 BOHINEN
8/1 BRATTBAKK | 16/1 WISE
9/1 BARMBY | 33/1 ADAMS
Other players on request.

CORRECT SCORE
11/2 NORWAY 1-0 | 18/1 DRAW 2-2
9/1 NORWAY 2-0 | 10/1 ENGLAND 2-1
5/1 DRAW 0-0 | 25/1 ENGLAND 3-1
Other scores on request. All William Hill football rules apply.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

ALEXANDRA ROSE DAY 20th June 1995.
Total collected in the Greater London Area, including the City of London Area (£2,049.93) was £55,616.43. Expenses, including cost of roses, amounted to £4,377.64 (City of London £96.82). 'People-caring' organisations in London will benefit.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charities: The Brompton Trust (Land)
The Brompton Trust (Investments)
National

The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for these Charities. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at 70 St George's Square, London SW1V 3RD, or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Albans's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting reference BC-G7749-CD(Lnd). Comments or representations can be made within one month from today

SPEARING nee TURNER LILIAN SPEARING nee TURNER WIDOW, Late of Leytonstone, London E11 Died there on 27th February 1995 (estate about £9,700). The kin of the above named are requested to communicate with Messrs. Price & Company, 252 High Road, Leyton, London E10 5PP

LEGAL NOTICES

Edward Charles Associates Limited
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 17th November 1995, to send their full christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debt or claim and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Mark Robert Fry of Messrs. Taylor Gotham & Fry, The Old Exchange, 234 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2EQ, the liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated 6th October 1995
Mark Robert Fry - Liquidator

INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106(1)
CPCC LIMITED
IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Ian Franses of Ian Franses Associates, Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP was appointed Liquidator of the above-named company on the 6th October 1995.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to Mr Ian Franses at Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP.
I Franses - Liquidator

GEORGE ABRAHAMS (SMITHFIELD) LIMITED
Registered Number: 1735483
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at The offices of Levy Gee, 7th Floor, Wettern House, 56 Dingwall Road, Croydon CR0 0XH on 23rd day of October 1995 at 10.00 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes of having a report by me, the Joint Administrative Receiver, laid before it together with a summary of the *Statement of Affairs of the Company,* and if thought fit, to appoint a Creditors' Committee. Forms of proxy are available which should be completed if you cannot attend the Meeting and wish to be represented, and returned to me at Levy Gee, 7th Floor, Wettern House, 56 Dingwall Road, Croydon CR0 0XH by the date of the Meeting. Proxies to be used at the Meeting must be lodged, together with written details of the claim, not later than 12.00 hours on the business day before the day of the Meeting. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at this Meeting. The statutory report prepared by the Joint Administrative Receivers of the named Company, pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, is available free of charge and on written request to me.
Paul M Davis FCA
Joint Administrative Receiver
Dated 6th October 1995

HENSHER (FURNITURE TRADES) PLC
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the above Company, in accordance with the provision of Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX on Thursday 19th October 1995 at 10.00 a.m. *The purposes of the meeting are* to receive a statement of affairs and a report on the Company from a director and if the creditors wish to do so, to nominate a liquidator and appoint a liquidation committee.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection at the offices of Price Waterhouse, Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX on 17th and 18th October 1995 between 10 a.m. and 4p.m.
Proxies for use at the meeting *must be returned to Price* Waterhouse, Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX by 12 noon on 18th October 1995 and claims must be made in writing and be made to the same address.
By order of the Board
London & European Secretarial Limited, Secretary
5th October 1995
Any creditor who has not received notice of the meeting and who wishes to attend or be represented at it should ring 01737 766300 extension 2231 to *obtain the necessary forms.*

In the Matter of David Shelras Ltd
And in the Matter of the Insolvency Act and Rules 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106, we, John Charles Heath and Phillip Anthony Roberts of Haines Watts, 4-8 Tabernacle Street, London, EC2A 4LU, give notice that on 22 September 1995 we were appointed Liquidators of David Shelras Ltd by resolutions of the members and creditors.
Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 31 January 1996 to send in their full christian and surnames, *their addresses and* descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned John C Heath at 4-8 Tabernacle Street, London, EC2A 4LU, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by *their Solicitors, to come in and* prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be *excluded from the benefit of any* distribution.
Dated: 27 September 1995
Phillip A Roberts, Joint Liquidator.

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
GOZAVICH LIMITED
(Formerly: C.S. Martin Holdings Limited)
Registered No: 673215
Notice is hereby given that on *27 September 1995, D K Duggins* and J A Talbot of Arthur Andersen, 1 Victoria Square, Birmingham, B1 1BD were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of *the above company by Larpent* Newton SQCCF under the powers conferred in a debenture dated 17 May 1993 containing fixed and floating charges over *the assets and undertakings of the* company.
Dated this 2nd day of October 1995
D K Duggins, J A Talbot, Joint Administrative Receivers.

LONDON & EUROPEAN PROPERTY HOLDINGS LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the above Company, in accordance with the provision of Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX on Thursday 19th October 1995 at 10.00 a.m. *The purposes of the meeting are* to receive a statement of affairs and a report on the Company from a director and if the creditors wish to do so, to nominate a liquidator and appoint a liquidation committee.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection at the *offices of Price Waterhouse,* Bridge Gate, *55/57 High Street,* Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX on 17th and 18th October 1995 between 10 a.m. and 4p.m.
Proxies for use at the meeting *must be returned to Price* Waterhouse, Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX by 12 noon on 18th October 1995 and claims must be made in *writing* and be made to the same address.
By order of the Board
London & European Secretarial Limited, Secretary
5th October 1995
Any creditor who has not received notice of the meeting and who wishes to attend or be represented at it should ring 01737 766300 extension 2231 to *obtain the necessary forms.*

LONDON & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL HOLDINGS PLC
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the above Company, in accordance with the provision of Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX on *Thursday* 19th October 1995 at 10.00 a.m. The purposes of the meeting are to receive a statement of affairs and a report on the Company from a director and if the creditors wish to do so, to nominate a liquidator and appoint a liquidation committee.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will *be available for inspection at the* offices of Price Waterhouse, Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX on 17th and 18th October 1995 between 10 a.m. and 4p.m.
Proxies for use at the meeting must be returned to Price Waterhouse, Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1RX by 12 noon on 18th October *1995 and claims must be made in* writing and be made to the same address.
By order of the Board
London & European Secretarial Limited, Secretary
5th October 1995
Any creditor who has not received notice of the meeting and who wishes to attend or be represented at it should ring 01737 766300 extension 2231 to obtain the necessary forms

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT *1986*
CROBIC LIMITED
(Formerly: C.S. Martin Limited)
Registered No: 666187
Notice is hereby given that on *27 September 1995, D K Duggins* and J A Talbot of Arthur Andersen, 1 Victoria Square, Birmingham, B1 1BD were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of *the above company by Larpent* Newton SQCCF under the powers conferred in a debenture dated 17 May 1993 containing fixed and floating charges over *the assets and undertakings of the* company
Dated this 2nd day of October 1995
D K Duggins, J.A. Talbot, Joint *Administrative Receivers*

BERKELEY COURT LIMITED - Company No:2170845
BROOKLEIGH PROPERTY INVESTMENTS LIMITED - Company No:850398
CALHETA LIMITED - Company No:2138916
CHAGWISE LIMITED - Company No:1300924
DREADNOUGHT INVESTMENTS LIMITED - Company No:1385818
GROVEMENT INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED - Company No:681850
KINGSTON HOUSE EAST LIMITED - Company No:2069217
KINGSTON HOUSE (1-32) SOUTH LIMITED - Company No:2164824
LEADENHALL HOUSE LIMITED - Company No:1095709
PHIT MANAGEMENT (CROPTHORNE COURT) LIMITED - Company No:1176709
PHIT MANAGEMENT (STRATHRAY HOUSE) LIMITED - Company No:1202492
PHIT MANAGEMENT (THACKERAY COURT) LIMITED - Company No:1176848
PHIT MANAGEMENT (THORPE HALL) LIMITED - Company No:1176710
PRAVEVEST INVESTMENTS LIMITED - Company No:798714
SELOUS STREET PROPERTIES LIMITED - Company No:987129
STOLLRIDGE LIMITED - Company No:1118344

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above Companies intends to make a distribution to the creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, Roger Smith, at KPMG, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 10 November 1995 which is the last day for proving claims. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned.
Note: The Companies are able to pay all their known creditors in full.
Dated 28th September 1995
R Smith - Liquidator

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF CLERKENWELL REALISATIONS LIMITED
(IN CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
(FORMERLY COMPUTER SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT (CSD) LIMITED OF 146 CLERKENWELL ROAD, LONDON EC1)
The liquidators of Clerkenwell Realisations Limited give notice under the provisions of Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that they intend to pay a first interim dividend to the unsecured creditors of the company whose claims have been admitted within four months of 3 November 1995.
Creditors who have not already done so, must send details in writing (quoting reference D2G/PJB/CSD/400) of any claim against the company to the joint liquidator, Dipankar Mohan Ghosh of Price Waterhouse at 10 Bricket Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 3JX by 3 November 1995, which is the last day for submitting claims. A creditor who does not make a claim by that date may be excluded from the proposed interim distribution.
DM Ghosh, Joint Liquidator
3 October 1995.

Philip Every and Associates Limited
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 17th November 1995, to send their full christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debt or claim and the names and addresses of their Solicitors *(if any),* to the undersigned Mark Robert Fry of Messrs. Taylor Gotham & Fry, The Old Exchange, 234 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2EQ, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or *claims at such time and place as* shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated 6th October 1995
Mark Robert Fry, Liquidator.

Notice of appointment of Joint Liquidators
Name of company: SPRY FINANCE LIMITED
Nature of company: INVESTMENT COMPANY
Address of registered office: KING'S HOUSE, 36/37 KING STREET, LONDON EC2V 8BH
Joint Liquidators names and address: G H HUGHES AND S J L ADAMSON, ERNST & YOUNG, BECKET HOUSE, 1 LAMBETH *PALACE ROAD, LONDON SE1 7EU*
Date of appointment: 2 OCTOBER 1995
By whom appointed: MEMBERS *AND CREDITORS*
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
SPRY FINANCE LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
The creditors of the above-*named company are requested,* on or before 1 November 1995 to send their names, addresses and particulars of their claims to the undersigned, the Joint Liquidators *of the company, at* Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU
Date: 2 October 1995
G H Hughes, Joint Liquidator.

B. of B. (EUROPE) LIMITED
Company Number: 825852
BERMUDA FINANCE (U K) LIMITED
Company Number: 1598285
Both Companies in Members' Voluntary Liquidation
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to *Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the* Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above Companies intends to make a distribution to the creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, Roger Smith, at KPMG, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 10 November 1995 which is the last day for proving claims
Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned. *Note: The Companies are able to pay all their known creditors in full.*
Dated 28th September 1995
R Smith - Liquidator

Rule 4.106 The Insolvency Act 1986
DRYCOOL EQUIPMENT LIMITED
Take notice that the undersigned, PHILLIP ANTHONY *ROBERTS & JOHN CHARLES* HEATH of Haines Watts, 4-8 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4LU, were appointed Joint Liquidators of Drycool Equipment *Limited, by a resolution of a meeting* of the company's creditors held on the 18th day of September 1995.
P A ROBERTS AND J C HEATH, Joint Liquidators
Dated this 2nd day of October 1995.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
No: 5936 of 1994
In the High Court of Justice
In Bankruptcy
Saleem Ali of "Waldene", Knatts Valley Road, West Kingsdown, Kent N15 6XX, company director
I, Sara Elizabeth Dayman, *Licensed Practitioner* of BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London, W1M 1DA give notice that I was appointed Trustee of the estate of the above-named on *4 October 1995 by a meeting of* creditors held on that date. At that meeting, the resignation of the previous trustee Mr George Albert Auger also of this firm was accepted by the creditors and he was given his release. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts, writing to me for a claim form. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated: 6 October 1995
Sara Elizabeth Dayman, Trustee.

The Insolvency Act 1986
ATTIAS INTERNATIONAL TRADING CO LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 3rd October 1995.
M.R. DORRINGTON, *Liquidator.*

Toplane Limited
t/a Westminster Property Services
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 30th October 1995 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq.
A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 *Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd* Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
DATED THIS 6th October 1995
Stuard Jones, Director

TEMPLE COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED
In Members' Voluntary Liquidation
Company No: 2148806
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above Company intends to make a distribution to the creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, Roger Smith, KPMG Corporate Recovery, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 3 November 1995 which is the last day for proving claims. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be *made without* regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned. Note. The Company is able to pay all its known creditors in full. *Dated 2 October 1995*
R Smith - Liquidator

POWERLABEL LIMITED
In Administrative Receivership
Registered Number: 2799447
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above named Company will be held at 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA on 20 October 1995 at 11.00 hrs for the *purpose of having a report laid before* the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented. *Please note that a* creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at BDO Stoy Hayward 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA not later than 12.00 hrs on 19 October 1995 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the Company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of The Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf. Malcolm Cohen
Joint Administrative Receiver

Great Britain gain home draw

Draw promotes Lloyd's Davis Cup optimism

By Stuart Jones, Tennis Correspondent

GREAT Britain's decline in the Davis Cup promises to be arrested at last. Nothing should be taken for granted, particularly in the light of their humiliation at home against Romania last year, but the captain yesterday forecast that the team will be promoted from group two of the Euro-African zone.

To fulfil David Lloyd's prediction, his chosen men must win three ties next year. The first, crucially, will be staged at home, against Slovenia at the beginning of May. The second would then take place in either Malta or, more probably, Ghana, in the middle of July.

The third, towards the end of September, would also be provisionally at home. Because of the vagaries of the draw, which, in the pursuit of fairness, has become excessively convoluted, the venue cannot be known for certain until the opposition has been revealed. Even then, the picture is not necessarily straightforward.

The "choice of ground", as it is quaintly known, is determined by the location of the previous tie between two nations. Whoever was at home then will be away now, and vice versa, unless the pair have not played each other for a quarter of a century or more.

In that case — or if, like Britain and Slovenia, they have never met before — lots are drawn. Once Lloyd's team had been bracketed with one of the top two seeds in the group, they could have been preparing to visit somewhere such as Ljubljana, the capital. Fate, though, was kind.

"I was praying for a home draw," Lloyd said. "It gives you better than an average chance. Overall, it is a good draw because, if we win, we should win the next one. We ought to get promoted and, if we train the team right, we will be. We shouldn't be where we are anyway. That Romania match was the trouble."

In one of only two ties to be held at home over the past four years, Bill Knight's team went down on the lawns of Didsbury to a group of comparative novices on grass, including a 17-year-old who was making his debut. Lloyd intends to avoid a similar fiasco by taking the tie on to "a good, fast indoor court". He mentions Sheffield, Sunderland, Newcastle and even Glasgow as possible sites, and expects, whichever centre is selected, to receive vociferous support. On paper, at least, Britain should not need it.

Slovenia, trounced 5-0 at home by Zimbabwe and then in Israel, were relegated last year from group one. None of their representatives is in the top 400 in the world, whereas Greg Rusedski, Britain's new No 1, recently broke into the top 40. Ghana's highest-ranked player, incidentally, is No 356.

"We have a chance to consolidate," Lloyd said. "I am looking for more youngsters to push Greg and Tim Henman to get into the team. We tend to get them knocking on the door too late. Jeremy Bates being our No 1 for so long was fantastic for him, but also showed how poorly we were doing below him."

Should his team follow his plotted course, there may be a regrettable conflict of interests in September. The week before the third-round tie is scheduled, perhaps on grass, his representatives could take part in the clay-court tournament that is to be re-established in Bournemouth.

Russia and the United States, who are to meet in the 1995 final in Moscow at the beginning of December, were drawn away to Italy and at home to Mexico respectively in the first round for next year. The competition will then deepen. In 1997, it will feature a record 124 entrants.

WORLD GROUP: First round

Italy v Russia; South Africa v Austria; Switzerland v Germany; France v Denmark; India v Holland; Sweden v Belgium; Czech Republic v Hungary; United States v Mexico.

Ties to be played February 9 to 11.

EURO-AFRICAN ZONE
Group two, first round

Great Britain v Slovenia; Ghana v Malta; Egypt v Macedonia; Latvia v Ivory Coast; Poland v Nigeria; Luxembourg v Belorussia; Yugoslavia v Slovak Republic; Algeria v Portugal.

Ties to be played May 3 to 5.

Power of Ivanisevic costs rival the glory

GORAN IVANISEVIC survived a close examination of his credentials as defending champion in the Seiko Super Tennis tournament in Tokyo yesterday before rallying to reach the third round by securing victory against Louis Gloria in a tie-break in the final set.

Gloria, an unheralded American ranked No 233 in the world, pushed the Croatian No 2 seed to the limit before subsiding 6-7, 6-4, 7-6. Ivanisevic completed his win with an ace, then slumped into his chair with relief.

Gloria had failed to convert a match point at 7-6. "Gloria won through the qualifiers and had nothing to lose," Ivanisevic said.

"He was returning unbelievably; he was guessing right on my service," Ivanisevic, who received a warning from the umpire for hitting a ball into the top tier of a stand, added. The Croatian will next meet Kenneth Carlsen, of Denmark.

Jeremy Bates kept British hopes alive by winning a gruelling first-round contest with Bryan Shelton in which each player won a tie-break in the opening sets. Bates came through when a chipped return broke the American's service in the final game to secure a 6-7, 7-6, 7-5 victory and earn a place in the next round against Todd Martin, the American who is the sixth seed in Tokyo.

KATSUMI KASAHARA

Gloria tumbles over the net during his spirited attempt to put out Ivanisevic in Tokyo

Van der Wath states his case

A COURAGEOUS and determined 15-14 win in the fifth game against Simon Parke, the world No 6 and England No 2, in the Super Squash League this week may be enough to convince South Africa that Craig Van der Wath, their long-time leading player, may be worthy of inclusion in their squad for the world team championship in Cairo next month (Colin McQuillan writes).

Parke is certain of selection in a young squad with hopes of winning a first world team title for England. Indeed, both Parke and Peter Marshall, the No 1 for both England and Cannons Club, may have been already pre-selected for Cairo with the remaining two England places to be decided between Del Harris, Chris Walker, Mark Cairns and Mark Chaloner.

Van der Wath, on the other hand, has been de-selected by South Africa on grounds of lack of fitness.

The former champion of South Africa, 29, has suffered increasing fatigue problems since developing a perforated intestine from a suspected case of insecticide poisoning two years ago. Specialists at Trinity College Dublin and in South Africa failed to solve the problem and it was a recommendation this year from Philip Whitlock, the former England captain, who suffered similar problems last year, that took Van der Wath to Mike Ash, the Exeter physiologist, who pulled him out of what had become chronic fatigue syndrome. Recovery appeared evident at Ogmore as Van der Wath won the demanding second-string rubber with an adventurous one-point tie-break call at 14-14 in the fifth game.

Parke, who won his first big title in Malaysia this summer, is seen as capable of displacing Marshall in the rankings if they meet, as scheduled, in the quarter-finals of the World Open in Cyprus that precedes the world team championship.

SUPER LEAGUE RESULTS: Ogmore Valley Dragons 1, Cannons Club 2 (M Cairns lost to P Marshall 14-15, 11-15, 5-15, D Evans lost to P Nicol 10-15, 8-15, 15-14, 13-15, C Van der Wath beat S Parke 15-11, 11-15, 15-13, 14-15, 15-14). Jim Hall Sports Northern 1, ICL Lion Herts 2 (J Nicolle beat C Walker 15-13, 15-13, 14-15, 6-15, 15-4. D Ryan lost to D Harris 7-15, 9-15, 10-15, P Johnson lost to M Chaloner 15-7, 12-15, 6-15, 15-12, 4-15)

SPORT IN BRIEF

Hodgson tipped for Internazionale post

AN ENGLISHMAN and national football team coach emerged as the favourite yesterday to take the helm at the Italian club, Internazionale, though it was not Terry Venables, the England incumbent, but Roy Hodgson, his Switzerland counterpart, who appeared most likely to find his future employment in Serie A.

Hodgson, whose team could secure a European championship finals place by beating Hungary tonight, would not comment on reports that he had been offered a £1.3 million contract. Venables, who insists that he was approached by Internazionale, though the club denies it, maintained yesterday that it was "not the slightest bit embarrassing".

Lars Bohinen yesterday defended his transfer from Nottingham Forest to Blackburn Rovers, in which he was criticised by Frank Clarke, the Forest manager, for being greedy. Bohinen said that he considered that Blackburn still had a chance of retaining the championship.

Derby opens season

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: The London Monarchs will host the Scottish Claymores on April 14 at White Hart Lane as part of an effort to ensure that the 1996 World League of American Football season kicks off in style. The Frankfurt Galaxy, the champions, visit Düsseldorf's Rhein Fire the previous day. The World Bowl will be on June 22 or 23.

FIXTURES: London Monarchs: April 14: Claymores (h); 20: Frankfurt (a); 27: Rhein (a); May 6: Barcelona (h); 11: Amsterdam (a); 19: Frankfurt (h); 27: Amsterdam (h); June 2: Barcelona (a); 9: Claymores (a); 16: Rhein (h). Scottish Claymores: April 14: London (a); 21: Barcelona (h); 28: Amsterdam (h); May 4: Rhein (a); 11: Frankfurt (a); 19: Rhein (h); 26: Frankfurt (h); June 1: Amsterdam (a); 9: London (h); 16: Barcelona (a).

Muggeridge goes solo

BADMINTON: Joanne Muggeridge will try to make her way to the Olympic Games in Atlanta next year independently of the Great Britain squad after a dispute between Nora Perry, her coach, and Andy Goode, the British Olympic squad manager. Goode has not included Muggeridge in his funding for tournaments in the Far East next month. "We'll do it our own way and have nothing to do with him or his squad," Perry said.

Douce back in saddle

CYCLING: Steve Douce, Great Britain's No 1 cyclo-cross rider, returns to international competition next month after suffering serious head injuries in a fall from a mountain bike in May that kept him in hospital for four weeks. Douce leads the five-man Britain team in the British Cyclo-Cross Association event on the Eastway circuit in Stratford, east London, on November 5. Roger Hammond, Peter Stevenson, Peter Rice and Richard Allaway are his team-mates.

De Villiers fails again

ATHLETICS: Lisa de Villiers, 14, from South Africa, who, in April, became became the youngest competitor to fail a drugs test, has tested positive for the second time in five months. De Villiers, banned for four years after traces of the anabolic steroid, nandrolone, and the stimulant, fencamfamine, were found in a sample at the national junior championships, failed an out-of-competition test last month.

Lumley dominant

REAL TENNIS: Penny Lumley, the world champion, underlined her dominance by winning the French Open women's singles championship after a thrilling 2½-hour final against Sally Jones, the former world champion. She then teamed up with Sue Haswell to take the doubles title in commanding fashion against Jones and Alex Garside to retain their unbeaten record in women's doubles.

Sri Lanka aim to enhance reputation

By Our Sports Staff

WITH the World Cup only four months away, Sri Lanka's cricketers, buoyant after their Test and one-day series wins over Pakistan, and a new-look West Indies team will begin their fine-tuning when they meet at the start of the Champions Trophy triangular tournament in Sharjah, in the United Arab Emirates, today.

Pakistan begin their challenge against Sri Lanka tomorrow. Each team will play the others twice, with the top two contesting the final on October 20.

The Sri Lankans are confident that they will live up to their growing stature in international cricket, but Arjuna Ranatunga, their experienced captain, concedes that the team needs to be consistent if it is to justify the prediction made by Sir Richard Hadlee that it will be one of the favourites for the World Cup.

"The joys of winning are great, but we must not let up now that we have hit the right groove," Ranatunga, 33, who played in Sri Lanka's first Test match, in 1982, said. "Sri Lankan cricket has never had it so good, and we must take advantage of that."

Ranatunga has not forgotten the Asia Cup tournament, played in Sharjah in April, when Sri Lanka overcame Pakistan at the round-robin stage only to go down tamely to India in the final. "A tournament is won by being consistent even in the unpredictable world of one-day cricket," Ranatunga, who is certain to lead Sri Lanka in the World Cup that it co-hosts with India and Pakistan, said.

The West Indies, who won the first two World Cups, in 1975 and 1979, are looking to make amends for a poor Test run in which they have lost to Australia at home and been held to a 2-2 draw by England.

The selectors have retained nine of the 17 players who toured England. Among those left out are Carl Hooper, Keith Arthurton and Kenny Benjamin, the latter for disciplinary reasons. Courtney Walsh and Curtly Ambrose have also been allowed to rest, while an injury to Jimmy Adams leaves Richie Richardson, the captain, and Brian Lara with the responsibility of leading the West Indies challenge. Adams's place has been taken by Roland Holder.

Phil Simmons, the opening batsman, Anderson Cummins and Hamesh Anthony, the fast bowlers, and Roger Harper, the veteran off spinner, return to the side after being overlooked for the England tour.

SCHEDULE: Today: West Indies v Sri Lanka. Tomorrow: Pakistan v Sri Lanka. 13: Pakistan v West Indies. 15: Pakistan v West Indies. 16: Sri Lanka v West Indies. 17: Pakistan v Sri Lanka. 20: Final.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Kansas City 29 San Diego 23.

BOXING

SAN BENEDETTO, Italy: European super-bantamweight championship: Vincenzo Belcastro (It, holder) bt Richie Wenton (Eng) pts.

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Group one: Romania 0 France 0 (in Bucharest). Group four: Lithuania 3 Estonia 0 (in Vilnius)

Monday's late results

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Kidderminster 2 Telford 0.

FA CUP: Third qualifying round replay: Purfleet 2 Dagenham and Redbridge 1.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Guiseley 2 Bishop Auckland 0; Hyde 5 Knowsley 0. First division: Ashton United 2 Atherton LR 1; Great Harwood 0 Netherfield 2.

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Carshalton 0 Kingstonian 3.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Swindon 0 Wimbledon 0; Tottenham 6 Millwall 1. League Cup: Cheltenham 2 Newport 0.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Birmingham 0 Derby 2; Wolverhampton 3 Leeds 0. Second division: Port Vale 2 Middlesbrough 1, Preston 3 York 0.

FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Hereford 6 Gloucester 0; Darlington 2 Hartlepool 2.

OTHER MATCH: Grays 0 West Ham United 0.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Fuji Film Trophy: Second round: Banbury 0 Aldershot 2; Slough 1 Vale of White Horse 0.

GOLF

FLORIDA: Walt Disney Classic: Final scores (rain-shortened: US unless stated): 196: B Bryant 67, 63, 66. 199: H Sutton 67, 66, 66; T Tryba 69, 65, 65. 201: M Reid 68, 66, 67; J Acosta 68, 67, 66; R Tway 65, 70, 66. 202: R Cochran 66, 67, 69; M Heinen 65, 68, 69; L Rinker 68, 67, 67; J Williamson 69, 65, 68; M Hulbert 68, 66, 68; P Burke 66, 65, 71; C Rymer 68, 68, 66; C Paulson 62, 68, 72.

ZURICH: Senior Pro-Am Lexus Trophy: Final scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 206: L Higgins 69, 70, 67. 211: R Vines (Aus) 70, 66, 75. 212: T Horton 72, 72, 68; V Tshabalala (SA) 71, 70, 71; D Butler 71, 70, 71; S Wales 72, 69, 71; M Gregson 72, 69, 71; J Morgan 72, 69, 71; D Creamer 70, 69, 73. 213: P Butler 71, 75, 67; C Evans (US) 73, 70, 70; N Coles 71, 70, 72. 214: N Ratcliffe (Aus) 75, 72, 67; H Schumacher (Switz) 73, 73, 68; A Garrido (Sp) 71, 68, 75. 215: R Fidler 73, 69, 73; R Campagnoli (It) 69, 72, 74; J Fourie (SA) 70, 70, 75.

GRAFTON MORRISH PUBLIC SCHOOLS TROPHY: Hunstanton: First round: Birkenhead 3 Loretto 0; Repton 3 Hymers 0; George Heriot's 2½ St Bees ½; Pocklington 2 Bedford 1; Malvern 2 St Lawrence 1; Winchester 2½ Eltham ½; Charterhouse 2 Sutton Valence 1; Watson's 2½ Rugby ½. Second round: Radley 2 Kings Canterbury 1; Eton 3 Rydal 0; Forest 3 Wellington 0; KCS Wimbledon 2 Harrow 1; Exham 2½ Solihull ½; Robert Gordons 2 Cranleigh 1, Coventry 3 Berhamstead 0, Oundle 2½ Chigwell ½. At Brancaster: First round: Solihull 2 Bolton 1; Exham 3 Downside 0; Robert Gordons 2 Norwich 1, Cranleigh 2 Lancing 1; Coventry 3 Millfield 0; Berkhamsted 2½ Bury ½; Oundle 2½ Marlborough 1; Chigwell 2 Perse 1. Second round: Sherborne 2 Kelvinside 1, The Leys 3 Loughborough 0; Dulwich 2 Warwick 1; Whitgift 2 Ardingley 1. Third round (Hunstanton): Eton 2 Radley 1; KCS Wimbledon 3 Forest 0; Epsom 2½ Robert Gordons 1½; Oundle 2½ Coventry 1½; Sherborne 2 The Leys 1, Dulwich 3 Whitgift 0; Repton 2½ George Heriot's 1½; Charterhouse 2½ Winchester 1½. Fourth round: KCS Wimbledon 2 Eton 1; Epsom 2 Oundle 1; Dulwich 2 Sherborne 1; Repton 2 Charterhouse 1 (at the 21st). Semi-finals: KCS Wimbledon 3 Epsom 0; Repton 2 Dulwich 1. Final: Repton 2 KCS Wimbledon 1.

VOLVO ORDER OF MERIT (GB and Ire unless stated): 1, S Torrance £830,491.28. 2, C Montgomerie £626,851.40; 3, B Langer (Ger) £570,174.17, 4, C Rocca (It) £459,945.29; 5, M Campbell (NZ) £361,287.33; 6, M James £265,827.84; 7, B Lane £259,198.13; 8, A Forsbrand (Swe) £242,048.17; 9, P O'Malley (Aus) £237,951.67; 10, W Riley (Aus) £237,432.43; 11, P Walton £218,056.39; 12, H Clark £215,168.88.

GYMNASTICS

SABAE, Japan: World championships: Apparatus finals: Men: Vault: Equal 1, G Misutin (Ukr) and A Nemov (Russ) 9.756pts; 3, V Scherbo (Bela) 9.662. Parallel bars: 1, Scherbo 9.812; 2, Huang Liping (China) 9.750; 3, H Tanaka (Japan) 9.725. High bar: 1, Andreas Wecker (Ger) 9.812; 2, Y Hatakeda (Japan) 9.775; equal 3, K Dounev (Bul) and Zhang Jinjing (China) 9.750. Women: Beam: 1, Mo Huilan (China) 9.900; equal 2, L Podkopayeva (Ukr) and D Moceanu (US) 9.837. Floor: 1, G Gogean (Romania) 9.825; 2, Ji Liya (China) 9.675; 3, L Furnon (Fr) 9.825.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 5 Buffalo 3; Winnipeg 4 Anaheim 3; Colorado 6 Pittsburgh 6; Detroit 5 Vancouver 3.

REAL TENNIS

BORDEAUX: French Open women's championship (GB unless stated): Semi-final: P Lumley bt S Haswell 6-2, 6-1, S Jones bt K Allen 6-3, 6-5. Final: Lumley bt Jones 5-6, 6-1, 6-4. Doubles: Semi-finals: Lumley and Haswell bt K Allen and B Bidouze (Fr) 6-1, 6-1, S Jones and A Garside bt F Deucher (Aus) and C Cornwallis 6-5, 6-3. Final: Lumley and Haswell bt Jones and Garside 6-2, 5-3. Plate: J Vickers bt F Syson 6-1, 1-6, 6-1.

HATFIELD: Trocadero National League: Hatfield bt Moreton Morrell 3-0. M Gooding bt K Sheldon 6-4, 6-2; A Phillips bt S Brockenshaw 6-1, 6-0. M Seigneur bt A Knibbs 6-4, 6-2.

RUGBY LEAGUE

HALIFAX WORLD CUP: Group three: Wales 28 France 6

RUGBY UNION

COURAGE LEAGUE: Leading scorers: First division: 73: J Callard (Bath: 2 tries, 9 conversions, 15 penalty goals). 60: D Pears (Harlequins: 9c, 8pg, 6 dropped goals) 59: J Liley (Leicester: 4c, 17pg) 56: R Andrew (Wasps, 4c, 13pg, 3dg). 53: S Mason (Orrell: 1t, 3c, 14pg); M Tainton (Bristol: 4c, 15pg). 51: T Stimpson (West Hartlepool: 1t, 2c, 14pg). 43: R Liley (Sale, 2c, 11pg, 2dg). Second division: 86: M Corcoran (London Irish: 4t, 12c, 12pg). 76: P Grayson (Northampton: 1t, 23c, 8pg). 50: M Jackson (Wakefield, 7c, 12pg). 46: A Finnie (Bedford, 1t, 7c, 7pg, 2dg). 45: S Howard (Blackheath: 5c, 10pg, 1dg). 38: J Steele (London Scottish: 1t, 6c, 7pg). 30: M Allen (Northampton, 6t); G Seely (Northampton; 6t), C O'Shea (London Irish: 6t).

CLUB MATCH: Tondu 19 Glamorgan County 19.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Dauntsey's 5 Pangbourne 42; Epsom 8 Eton 16; Norwich 21 Colchester RGS 8; Reigate GS 11 Wimbledon 19; Sherborne 32 King's Taunton 5; Oakham 38 Bromsgrove 5. Daily Mail under-18 Cup: Mill Hill 39 Goff's 5.

SPEEDWAY

WOLVERHAMPTON: Midland Open Reserve Riders Championship: 1, J Wilson (Cradley Heath) 14; 2, W Beveridge (Sheffield) 13; 3, G Martin (Berwick) 12 (after run-off); 4, C Taylor (Wolverhampton) 12.

EXETER: Academy League grand prix: Final round: Berwick 24 Buxton 22; Devon A 21 Devon B 19; Stoke 18 Sittingbourne 7 Linlithgow 5 Mildenhall 1. Final aggregate scores: 1, Berwick 157, 2, Buxton 148, 3, Stoke 91; 4, Sittingbourne 88, 5, Linlithgow 75; 6, Mildenhall 66; 7, Devon 62; 8, Cleveland 43.

TENNIS

BIRMINGHAM: LTA satellite men's tournament (GB unless stated). First round: S Bandermann (Ger) bt N Baglin 6-2, 7-6. Second round: G Mandl (Austria) bt E Heussner (Fr) 6-4, 6-4, P Kuhn (SA) bt J Fox 6-4, 7-5, R Koenig (SA) bt T Hand 6-2, 6-2; B Cowan bt P Hand 6-3, 7-6; I Heuberger (Switz) bt N Weal 6-3, 7-6, S Manai (Switz) bt S Hommel (Holl) 4-6, 7-5, 6-1, C Beecher bt N Gould 7-6, 4-6, 6-4; S Herdoiza (US) bt S Bandermann (Ger) 6-4, 5-4

FILDERSTADT, Germany: Women's tournament: First round: N Zvereva (Bul) bt M Hingis (Switz) 6-4, 6-4, S Appelmans (Bel) bt S Hack (Ger) 6-4, 6-1, B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) bt L Raymond (US) 6-4, 7-5

TOKYO: Men's tournament: First round: F Wibier (Holl) bt M Joyce (US) 7-6, 6-7, 6-4. T Ho (US) bt P Wekesa (Ken) 6-1, 6-1. D Norman (Bel) bt G Motomura (Japan) 6-3, 6-4; J Hlasek (Switz) bt A Cheng (Can) 7-6, 3-6, 6-3. A O'Brien (US) bt H Kaneko (Japan) 5-7, 6-1, 7-5; K Carlsen (Den) bt D Sapsford (GB) 7-5, 6-1; M Tebbutt (Aus) bt S Lareau (Can) 6-1, 6-7, 6-4, S Stolle (Aus) bt G Pozzi (It) 6-3, 6-4. L Paes (India) bt K Miyachi (Japan) 6-2, 6-4, L Gloria (US) bt T Suzuki (Japan) 6-4, 6-2, H Holm (Swe) bt J Morgan (Aus) 3-6, 7-6, 6-3. C Caratti (It) bt S Draper (Aus) 6-3, 7-6; J Bates (Eng) bt B Shelton (US) 6-7, 7-6, 7-5; H Dreekmann (Ger) bt S Matsuoka (Japan) 6-3, 6-3; M Philippoussis (Aus) bt A Mronz (Ger) 6-3, 6-3. Second round: J Eltingh (Holl) bt T Ho (US) 4-6, 6-3, 6-2; K Carlsen (Den) bt A Krickstein (US) 6-4, 6-0; G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt L Gloria (US) 6-7, 6-4, 7-6; R Furlan (It) bt S Stolle (Aus) 6-2, 3-6, 6-1; J Hlasek (Switz) bt P McEnroe (US) 7-6, 3-6, 7-6, R Krajicek (Holl) bt A O'Brien (US) 7-5, 7-6

RAMAT HASHARON, Israel: Men's tournament: First round: J Sánchez (SP) bt O Gross (Ger) 6-4, 6-2; D Wheaton (US) bt R Schutter (Ger) 6-4, 7-5; J Palmer (US) bt N Marques (Por) 6-2, 6-3; J Stoltenberg (Aus) bt G Bloom (Is) 6-3, 6-3. E Ran (Is) bt W Black (Zim) 6-3, 6-1. R Vasek (Cz) bt J Grabb (US) 6-2, 1-6, 7-6; J Kroslak (Slo) bt T Guardiola (Fr) 6-0, 4-6, 6-3; N Behr (Is) bt J Tarango (US) 6-4, 3-6, 7-5

PRAGUE: Men's tournament: First round: M Damm (Cz) bt A Voinea (Rom) 6-2, 3-6, 7-5; N Kiefer (Ger) bt A Cherkasov (Russ) 6-3, 3-6, 6-3; D Prinosil (Ger) bt M Fenner (Ger) 6-1, 2-6, 6-3; J Novak (Cz) bt F Korda (Cz) 2-6, 7-6, 6-0.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

I have given a couple of examples recently of disastrous redoubles. This was a hand from the 1987 Bermuda Bowl semi-final, in which Great Britain played Sweden.

Dealer South **Game all**

♠10 6
♥7 6 5
♦A K 7 3
♣A 7 6 4

♠J
♥3
♦J 10 9 8 6 4
♣K Q 8 5 2

N
W E
S

♠A K 8 5 4
♥Q J 10 2
♦Q 5
♣10 3

♠Q 9 7 3 2
♥A K 9 8 4
♦2
♣J 9

S	W	N	E
Armstrong	Fallenius	Forrester	Lindkvist
2 NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
Pass	3 NT	*Double*	Pass
Pass	Redouble	All pass	

Contract: 3 NT redoubled, by West **Lead: Six of Hearts**

In the official report of the event, East's pass of 3 NT redoubled was awarded an exclamation mark.

The opening bid of 2 NT showed 7-10 points and 5-5 in two suits, clubs not being one of them. Forrester bid Three Hearts, to play if his partner had hearts. He wanted to get in the opponents' way if that was their suit. The hand would obviously play well if his partner had spades and diamonds.

Fallenius no doubt felt that he was being swindled and bid 3 NT for the minors; opposite a partner who could not bid over Three Hearts, he should have passed. Forrester jumped on 3 NT; when that came back to him, Fallenius redoubled for take out and Lindkvist unwisely passed.

A good defence by Forrester and Armstrong took Fallenius five down for 2,800 to North-South, apparently the largest penalty every conceded in a Bermuda Bowl. As Flint made 110 in Three Diamonds in the other room, the British gained 21 IMPs on the board.

☐ The Great British women's team met with mixed fortunes yesterday in the Venice Cup. A 25-5 victory over Venezuela was followed by a 21-9 defeat by France and a 16-14 loss to India. Britain remain in second place in their group, where the standings are: 1, France 118; 2, Great Britain 104; 3, United States II 100; 4, Japan 92; 5, Australia 86. United States I lead the other group.

In the Bermuda Bowl, South Africa lead their group from Argentina, Indonesia and Australia. In the other group, United States II lead from Sweden, Italy and Canada, with China fifth and the other teams some way behind. Eight qualifying rounds remain, with four teams from each group proceeding to the finals.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

HERRENVOLK
a. The herring fleet
b. Superior Germans
c. A knitting stitch

NAND
a. An unleavened pancake
b. A freshwater shrimp
c. A computer function

ISTANA
a. A palace
b. The scented clematis
c. A Ghanaian concubine

LIEBESTOD
a. On your own
b. A pink toadstool
c. A suicidal song

Answers on page 46

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Kasparov retains title

Garry Kasparov, from Russia, has retained the world title that he first won in November 1985. Kasparov clinched the title by drawing a difficult endgame against Vishy Anand, the Indian Grandmaster, in the seventeenth game of the contest.

At 63 moves and lasting four hours and 53 minutes, it was the longest game of the match, in moves and in time. Kasparov needs one more draw to emerge clear victor. The champion retains his title after reaching ten points, but needs to score 10½ in order to win the lion's share of the $1.5 million prize purse.

It was sad for Anand that, having invested so much energy in this final effort to halt Kasparov, he missed what appears to be an easy win on the 37th move. By playing 37, b4, Anand would have established two connected passed pawns on the queen's flank, after which Black is almost certainly defenceless. Kasparov thus escaped defeat by the skin of his teeth.

White: Viswanathan Anand
Black: Garry Kasparov
Intel world championship
Seventeenth game, 1995

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	g6
6	Be3	Bg7
7	f3	0-0
8	Qd2	Nc6
9	Bc4	Bd7
10	h4	h5
11	Bb3	Rc8
12	0-0-0	Ne5
13	Bg5	Rc5
14	Kb1	Re8
15	Rhe1	Qa5
16	a3	b5
17	Bxf6	exf6
18	Nde2	Rc6
19	Nd5	Qxd2
20	Rxd2	Nc4
21	Bxc4	bxc4
22	Red1	f5
23	exf5	Bxf5
24	Nd4	Bxd4
25	Rxd4	Re2
26	R4d2	Rxd2
27	Rxd2	Kf8
28	Kc1	Be6
29	Rd4	Bxd5
30	Rxd5	Ke7
31	Rb5	Ke6
32	Rb7	Rc5
33	Rxa7	g5
34	Ra8	gxh4
35	Re8+	Kd7
36	Re4	c3
37	Rxh4	cxb2+
38	Kxb2	Rg5
39	a4	f5
40	a5	f4
41	a6	Kc7
42	Rxf4	Rxg2
43	Rf7+	Kb8
44	Kc3	h4
45	Kd3	Rf2
46	c4	Ra2
47	Ke4	Rxa6
48	Rh7	Ra5
49	f4	Kc8
50	f5	Kd8
51	Kf4	Rc5
52	Kg5	Rxc4
53	Kg6	Rg4+
54	Kf7	d5
55	f6	Kd7
56	Kf8+	Ke6
57	f7	Rf4
58	Kg8	d4
59	f8Q	Rxf8+
60	Kxf8	Ke5
61	Rxh4	d3
62	Rh3	Ke4
63	Rxd3	Draw agreed

Times world championship book

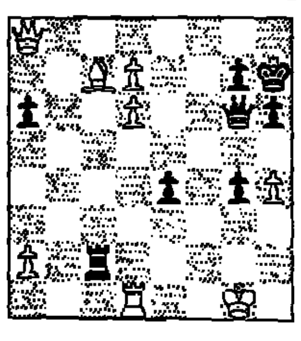
A full account of the match will appear in a *Times* book by Raymond Keene, *World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anand* (Batsford, £9.99), which will be published two days after the match is concluded. Credit card orders on 01376 327901.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Saturday in Sport and in Weekend on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Short — Kasparov, *The Times* world championship, fourteenth game, 1993. White has an extra piece and two pawns on the verge of queening, but this extra material is not helping to defend his king. How can Black exploit this? **Solution page 46**



Fiji offer true test of English resolve

By Christopher Irvine

ENGLAND'S Halifax World Cup group one game with Fiji tonight is not quite the leap into the dark that it was before Sunday, when Fiji, in taking apart South Africa, showed that their spirit of adventure is reinforced by a keen edge in handling, tackling and support-play skills.

The minnows in the competition from the South Pacific had looked destined to be swallowed by the big fish, but the performances of Fiji and Tonga, the latter in extending New Zealand to the limit in their crackling opening group two match, have already proved that the developing nations merit inclusion and must be encouraged further on the international scene.

Should they get their comeuppance at Wigan tonight — and a romp for England is by no means certain against a fast and physical Fiji side — the islanders are unlikely to be disgraced.

Indeed, they are relishing the occasion and the chance to put on a show for a big crowd at Central Park.

Graham Murray, an Australian, who took on the job of coaching Fiji only last month, now follows the Fijian maxim that attack is the best form of defence. "The Wigan crowd are in for a treat," he said. "I am sure they will appreciate the attacking football we'll play. The Keighley fans were enthralled by our ten-try effort on Sunday [when South Africa were crushed 52-6]."

From Fili Seru, a centre with a wicked sidestep and acceleration, to Ilie Toga, whose one-man demolition mission in the second-row flattened and bruised several South Africans, the side is littered with dangers to England, who are refusing to think of their qualification for the semi-finals as automatic this evening.

"They will ask a lot of questions of our defence," Phil Larder, the England coach, said. "They play a very expansive game, moving the ball across the pitch well, and their support play is excellent, but perhaps the most important aspect is that it is based on a very strong defence."

Nevertheless, Larder will trust that his side, which shows six changes to that which beat Australia at Wembley on Saturday, will possess the answers.

"Perhaps the most impressive aspect is the good job Graham Murray has done on them defensively, which still allows them to express themselves," he said.

Larder, whose previous knowledge of Fiji was gleaned from watching videotapes of their matches, said that it would be wrong to take them lightly, especially with six players experienced in the Winfield Cup in Australia. The duel on the wing between Jason Robinson, on his home patch, and Noa Nadruku, the former rugby union international, whose scoring ratio of four tries in every five games for Canberra Raiders is higher than any other player in the Winfield Cup, should be a contest to savour.

Shaun Edwards, on the substitutes' bench and just about recovered from a stomach virus, has been a long-time admirer of Fijian rugby since holidaying there and seeing for himself the capacity of big, strong and aggressive players to run with the ball, as well as the risks that they could pose England.

"I watched a couple of rugby union matches and certainly the players seem far more suited to league and its basic skills of running, tackling and passing," Edwards said. "The players have a tremendous attitude and, even though they are virtually all from a union background, they are obviously making great progress. They have got some tremendous athletes and are far more suited to league because they love to run with the ball."

Fiji, not surprisingly, have stuck by the starting line-up that served them so well at Keighley in overwhelming South Africa, but the step up is a dramatic one. Meetings with England and Australia in the space of four days offer an awesome introduction to the wider world of rugby league and it will be fascinating to see how they cope under the fiercest pressure.

TEAMS

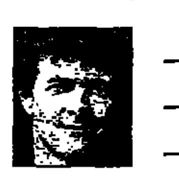
ENGLAND: K Radlinski (Wigan); J Robinson (Wigan), N Pinkney (Keighley), P Newlove (Bradford), J Bentley (Halifax), A Smith (Castleford), R Goulding (St Helens); P Broadbent (Sheffield), L Jackson (Newcastle Knights), D Sampson (Castleford), D Betts (Auckland, captain), M Cassidy (Wigan), A Farrell (Wigan). Substitutes: P Cook (Leeds), S Edwards (Wigan), S Haughton (Wigan), S McCurrie (Widnes).

FIJI: W Sovatabua, J Dakuitoga, L Nalagilagi, F Seru, N Nadruku, N Nayacakalou, S Taga; M Kaunivalu, I Sagaitu, P Nakubuwai, A Degei, I Toga, S Marayawa. Substitutes: K Koroibuleka, J Vatubua, U Wainidroa, K Naisoro

MICHAEL POWELL

Lam has become a national hero for the devoted rugby league-watching public of Papua New Guinea

Lam revels in his starring role



Andrew Longmore discovers a nation's hopes in the World Cup resting on one man's shoulders

When he threw in his rugby league lot with his country of birth rather than of adoption last year, Adrian Lam probably did not anticipate defending national honour in a South Pacific derby on the banks of the Humber.

Lam could have been in the Australian squad for the Halifax World Cup, but he chose instead to play for Papua New Guinea, where he was born 25 years ago, and his reward has been a hero worship way beyond the excesses of Gazzamania. Paul Gascoigne does not have a one-armed bandit named after him. Lam does. It is called the "Kumul Kid" — the Papua New Guinea side is nicknamed the "Kumuls", after the national bird of paradise emblem — and his boyish face beams out from it.

Of all the unlikely fixtures in the World Cup, Papua New Guinea versus Tonga at The Boulevard in Hull was the most incongruous — and the most exotic. "Neighbours playing each other on the other side of the world," as Lam said.

Forget the World Cup, local pride was at stake here and any number of touring sides returning from Papua New Guinea bruised and battered know how powerful that can be. Last night, tackle matched tackle and try equalled try as the more experienced Tonga side, who had so lost so narrowly in to New Zealand in their opening game, were thwarted by the courage of the Pupuans. Twenty nil behind at half-time, the Papuans, inspired by the diminuitive Lam, forced a remarkable draw, 28-28. Much, perhaps, rested on Lam's shoulders and he did not fail them. He advertises Schweppes, Shell petrol stations and Air New Guinea and, each night over the past ten days, his voice has brought news of the team's training on Nau FM, the national broadcasting station — but, in return for the adulation and the lucrative sponsorship deals, Lam was expected to transform the talented but brittle Papuans into an international force. Preferably, overnight.

"He could be the prime minister tomorrow if he wanted to be," Bob Robertson, the manager of Papua New Guinea, said, "but the downside is that everyone expects him to be the star." That means pretty well all four million Papuans, who are the only nation in the world to regard rugby league as their national sport and who think nothing of walking for half a day to watch their country play.

If the burden bothers him, Lam has had too long a training in the Australian way of relaxation to let it show much. He left his home town of Rabaul, now buried under six feet of ash after a volcanic eruption, at the age of seven and now lives in an apartment on Bondi Beach. He has adopted some of the surfer's nonchalance, but even he was taken aback by the reception on his return home for his first international when 10,000 people went to the airport to welcome him.

"I was expecting one or two people," he said, "but they were everywhere, shouting and clapping. I was surrounded by security guards and bundled into a car. I couldn't get over it. Even now, people want to come up and touch me just to see I'm real. It's good. It makes you realise far you've come since being here." It also more than justified his emotional decision to represent Papua New Guinea when he could have played for Australia.

Over the past month, Lam has been trying to temper the Papuans' attacking flair with defensive discipline, to ease his nerves as much as anything: "When they start to throw it around in defence, I'm thinking 'no, no', but sometimes they play their best football like that, so it's best to let them get on with it. If it comes off, it's sensational."

Yet the Papuans have been notoriously bad travellers. "They've got a lot of family back home," Lam explained. "If it's cold and wet, they feel a long from home."

Hull did its best to make both sides feel a little closer to home to the South Seas. The evening was clear and warm, the pitch hard and dry and the crowd of 5,121 were given full value. Strong early resistance and a late flourish was the Papuans' plan. Some plan. They conceded a try in the sixth minute and three more before half-time before Lam scored the first of the Papuans' five tries early in the second half. From 20-0 down, they closed to within two points, fell away again and finally levelled the scores two minutes from time. Fittingly, their lap of honour was led by the Kumul Kid.

WORLD CUP DETAILS

GROUP ONE

RESULTS: England 20 Australia 16, Fiji 52 South Africa 6.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fiji	1	1	0	0	52	6	2
England	1	1	0	0	20	16	2
Australia	1	0	0	1	16	20	0
South Africa	1	0	0	1	6	52	0

Not including Australia v South Africa

FIXTURES: Today: England v Fiji (Wigan, 7.30). Oct 14: Australia v Fiji (Huddersfield, 2.0). Oct 15: England v South Africa (Headingley, 7.0)

GROUP TWO

RESULTS: New Zealand 25 Tonga 24 Papua New Guinea 28 Tonga 28

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
New Zealand	1	1	0	0	25	24	2
Papua NG	1	0	1	0	28	28	1
Tonga	2	0	1	1	52	53	1

FIXTURE: Oct 14: New Zealand v Papua New Guinea (St Helens, 8.0).

GROUP THREE

RESULTS: Wales 28 France 6

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	1	1	0	0	28	6	2
France	1	0	0	1	6	28	0
W Samoa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

FIXTURES: Tomorrow: France v Western Samoa (Cardiff, 8.0) Oct 15: Wales v France (Swansea, 6.0)

SEMI-FINALS

Oct 21: Winners group one v winners group three (Old Trafford, 3.0)

Oct 22: Winners group two v runners-up group one (Huddersfield, 3.0).

FINAL

Oct 28: Wembley (2.50).

Injuries take toll on France squad

By Our Sports Staff

GAEL TALLEC, the Wigan forward, was ruled out of the rest of the Halifax World Cup as France suffered a triple injury blow yesterday. Tallec, the second-row forward, tore a groin muscle during the 28-6 defeat by Wales at Ninian Park on Monday night.

David Despin, with a dislocated shoulder, and Stephane Millet, who damaged a hamstring in training, the France utility backs, will also miss the remainder of the tournament.

France's last group game is against Western Samoa, also at Ninian Park, tomorrow, which they will have to win to have any chance of qualifying for the semi-finals. South Wales Police are advising supporters that tickets for that match will be available on the night from 6.30pm.

The match will kick off at 8pm and the police are anxious that there will be no repeat of the confusion over ticket sales that led to the start of the game between Wales and France on Monday being delayed by 15 minutes.

Many of the supporters who attended did not realise that they had to buy tickets before entering the turnstiles. It meant that many were still outside the ground at kick-off time.

In France, Jacky Rodor, the president of Perpignan rugby union club, said yesterday that the club expected Garrick Morgan, the former Australia lock, to rejoin them after his brief and unhappy career in rugby league.

Rodor said: "Provided the Australian Rugby Football Union give their permission for Morgan's return from league, and I think there is a 90 per cent chance of that, then we expect him to play for us against Bayonne on October 29."

Morgan, 25, rated the world's best rugby player after the 1993 Australia tour of France, signed for Perpignan in January 1994. However, in September 1994, he signed a three-year contract with South Queensland Crushers, the Australian rugby league club, that is believed to be worth Aus$600,000 (about £275,000).

However, the switch of codes did not go well for Morgan and, by July this year, he was making overtures about returning to the union code. Perpignan beat Toulouse, the champions, 23-11 last weekend.

☐ Mike Bramwell, the captain of Chorley rugby union club, has switched his allegiance by signing for the town's rugby league team. Bramwell, 25, joins Chorley, who play in the second division, along with Mike Stewart, 28, a centre, who has signed from Rochdale.

Murdoch confident

RUPERT MURDOCH predicted yesterday that he would win an outright victory in his attempt to take control of Australian rugby league, saying that the power struggle with the Australian Rugby League (ARL), the sport's national ruling body, would be settled in his favour within two years.

"I will win and the ARL will collapse, whether it will be this year or the year after I don't know," Murdoch, the chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation, parent company of *The Times*, said after News Corp's annual general meeting in Adelaide.

In March, Murdoch signed many of the country's leading players for his Super League, which is scheduled to begin in March in direct competition to the ARL. Asked if he would consider a compromise, he said: "No. They [the ARL] will have to go away. It is very hard to deal with people like that. There is too much emotion involved on both sides and too much money, too ... we have got the best players for as much as you can afford."

News Ltd, the Australian arm of News Corp, is involved in court proceedings with the ARL. Murdoch initiated the action in an attempt to remove eight clubs, including Sydney Bulldogs and Brisbane Broncos, from ARL jurisdiction.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 45

HERRENVOLK

(b) The Nazi conception of the German people as born to mastery; also *transferred* as an appellation of other "superior" groups. From the German for "master-race".

NAND

(c) A Boolean function of two or more variables that has the value zero when all of them are unity, and is otherwise unity, a portmanteau word from (n)*ot and*.

ISTANA

(a) In Malay kingdoms, a ruler's palace, from the Malaysian adaptation of the Sanskrit *ā-sthāna* a place, site, assembly. "This istana in the village of Bandar was the residence of Sultan Abdul Samad."

LIEVESTOD

(c) *An aria or duet proclaiming the suicide of lovers in deliciously sentimental opera, from the German meaning literally "love's death".*

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1, ... Qf5!; 2. Rf1 Qc5+; 3. Kh1 Qe3 and mate follows swiftly.

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RADIO CHOICE

The beat and mould camp

Putting the Boot In. *Radio 4, 8.30pm.*

I doubt if it will be only sadists who, after hearing Martin McNeely's report on an American boot camp, will think that this rough and tough method of rehabiliting young criminals would seem to have something going for it. The idea is to shock them back to reality. The military-style discipline at this camp in South Virginia should do that all right, but I think that the camp's woman parole officer could have chosen her words more carefully when she says the policy is "to beat them all down, and mould them back up". I wondered: was it this re-moulding, or his return to the same sick society outside the camp, that prompted an ex-boot camper to write to her saying: "It's kinda strange, but I miss boot camp."

Who Sings the Hero? *Radio 4, 2.00pm.*

There are radio dramas that demand the impossible of us. Vincent McInerny's reconstruction of the sinking by a U-boat of the steamship *City of Cairo* off South Africa in 1942 is one of them. We know the cast are no nearer water than the studio tumblers. Yet, so mercilessly does Martin Jenkins's direction play on our imagination that we simply cannot believe that these characters are not being tossed about in a lifeboat in the Atlantic Ocean or dropping the dead over the side to be devoured by sharks. Just once or twice are we brought back to reality with a bump. Rarely do Germans speak to each other in accented English.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** *Early Breakfast Show* **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo featuring the Golden Hour **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, incl at **12.30-12.45** Newsbeat; and at **1.15** The Net **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, incl at **4.40** *Judge Dredd*; and at **5.30-5.45** *Newsbeat* **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Best Bits with Greg Proops **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **Midnight** Claire Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 **8.00** The Young Tradition Semi-Finals **8.30** *The Pam Ayres Radio Show* **9.00** Alex Pascall's Caribbean Folk Music: Trinidad and Tobago **9.30** The Organist Entertains **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Sue McGarry **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl at **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** *The Magazine*, with Diana Madill, incl at **10.35** Euronews; and at **11.00** News; Natural History **12.00** Midday with Mair, *incl at* **12.34pm** Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** sport **7.35** Gary Lineker's International Football Night: Norway v England **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr **7.00** Simon Bates **10.00** Jonathan King **12.00** Tommy Boyd **2.00pm** *Anna Raeburn* **4.00** *Scott* Chisholm and Lowri Turner **7.00** Sean Bolger **9.00** Moz Dee **10.00** James Whale **1.00-6.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. **5.00am** Newsdesk **5.30** Europe **6.00** Newsday **6.30** Europe **7.00** Newsday **8.00** News **8.15** *An Instant in the Wind* **8.30** Discovery **9.00** News **9.10** Faith **9.15** Verse **9.45** Great Lovers **10.00** News in German **10.15** Andy Kershaw **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC *English* **11.45** *An Instant in the Wind* **Noon** Newsdesk **12.30pm** Meridian **1.00** News **1.05** Business **1.15** Britain **1.30** Composer of the Month **2.00** Newshour **3.00** News **3.05** *Outlook* **3.30** Megamix **4.00** News in German **4.15** Greenfield Collection **5.00** News **5.15** World **5.30** News in German **6.00** Europe **6.30** Business **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** News in German **8.00** News Summary **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Faith **8.30** Multitrack **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain **10.30** *Musician's Musician* **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** World **11.45** Sport **Midnight** News **12.10am** Pop Short **12.15** Sport **12.45** From Our Own Correspondent **1.00** Newsdesk **1.30** Great Lovers **1.45** Britain **2.00** News **2.10** Press Review **2.15** New Ideas **2.35** Just a Taste **2.45** Country **3.00** Newsday **3.30** Sport **4.00** News **4.15** Sport **4.30** Assignment

CLASSIC FM

4.00am *Early Breakfast* **6.00** Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Tchaikovsky (Violin Concerto in D) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata: Poulenc (Clarinet Sonata) **7.00** Gardening Forum (r) **8.00** Evening Concert: Music by Bizet, Respighi, Smetana, Brahms **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Sally Peterson

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am *Russ 'n' Jono* **9.00** *Richard* Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** J.L Grace **2.00-6.00am** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00 On Air. Sullivan (Symphony in E, Irish); O Riada (Nomos No 1, *Hercules Dux Ferrariae*); **7.05** Rossini (Overture, William Tell); Mozart (Piano Concerto No 19 in F, K459); **8.05** Eccles (Symphony for Mercury); *Purcell Portfolio*: A selection of songs; Strauss (Burleske for piano and orchestra)

9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Smetana (Vltava, Ma Vlast); Butterworth (Think no more; The lads in their hundreds; Is my team ploughing?); **9.20** Haydn (Piano Sonata in E flat: Alfred Brendel); *Prokofiev* (Symphony No 1 in D, Classical)

10.00 Musical Encounters. Purcell (Come ye sons of art, Z323); Glazunov (Elegy, Op 44); **10.28** Grainger (The Lads of Wamphray); Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 4 in G); **11.12** *Artist of the Week*: Alfreda Hodgson, mezzo. Ivory Gurney (To violets; Brown is my love); Master Tayler (Pavan and Galliard, Dublin Virginal Book); Anon (A Scottish Jigg); **11.22** Chabrier (*Suite pastorale*); Schubert (Der Zwerg, D771)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Grieg. Including String Quartet No 1 in G minor, Op 27

12.55-5.00pm The Afternoon on Three

1.00 Lunchtime Concert live from Studio One in Birmingham. Vanya Milanova, violin, and Caroline Palmer, piano, play Bach (Violin Sonata No 5 in F minor, *BWV 1018*); Beethoven (Violin Sonata in C minor, Op 30 No 2)

2.00 Schools Together **2.20** Time *and Tune* **2.40** *Drama* Workshop

3.00 Midweek Choice. Brahms (*Intermezzo in E minor*); Liadov (Eight Russian Folk Songs)

4.00 Choral Evensong live from Gloucester Cathedral. Director of Music David Briggs

5.00 The Music Machine. Tommy Pearson meets George Fenton, composer of works for film and television (r)

5.15 In Tune. Duparc (L'Invitation au voyage); **6.03** Telemann (*Double Concerto in F*); Haydn (Piano Sonata in A)

7.30 City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra under Simon Rattle plays Beethoven (Symphony No 4 in B flat); **8.10** A look at critical reaction to Beethoven in his lifetime (r) **8.30** Beethoven (Funeral March, Lenore Prohaska; Symphony No 5 in C minor)

9.20 O Wall, O Sweet, O Lovely Wall. The art of the craftsman

9.35 Two Pianos from the US. Arianna Goldina and Ramy Loumbrozo talk to Jeremy Siepman. Including Copland (Dance of the Adolescent, Grohg); Persichetti (Sonata, Op 11); Barber (*Souvenirs*); Brubeck (They all sang Yankee Doodle); Gershwin (Variations on "I got rhythm")

10.45 Night Waves. The paintings, tapestry and sculpture of Tudor and Jacobean England

11.30-12.30am Voices. Settings by a range of composers from Schumann and Berlioz to Shostakovich and Stravinsky

1.00-1.20 Night School

RADIO 4

6.00am News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl half-hourly news, **6.55**, **7.55** weather, **7.25**, **8.25** sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40 As It Seemed to Me:** John Cole's *memoirs* (3/5) **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Midweek, with *Times* columnist Libby Purves and Mea[illegible]

10.00 News; S[illegible] Lives (FM only): Harry Thompson meets people still living in the house where they were born (2/4)

10.00 Daily Service (LW only)

10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)

11.30 Gardeners' Question Time: From the postbag (r)

12.00 News; You and Yours with Liz Barclay

12.25pm Moving: Neil McKay's *comedy drama on the British* obsession with homes (2/6) **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One, *with Nick* Clarke at the Conservative Party Conference in Blackpool and James Cox in London

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Who Sings the Hero? See Choice (1/4)

2.45 Treasure Islands Michael Rosen on children's books. The popular author, Bernard Ashley, talks about his tough tales for modern children

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift with Dave Brehan

4.00 News

4.05 Kaleidoscope: Paul Gambaccini reviews the week's film releases and talks to director Terence Davies and the star of a movie about a 20th-century castrato

4.45 Short Story: The Woman in the Glass Booth by Page Edwards

5.00 PM with Chris Lowe and Linda Lewis **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 Round Britain Quiz Ireland v *London* (r)

7.00 News; The Archers

7.20 Face the Facts: John Waite and his team follow up listeners' complaints

7.45 20/20: A View of the Century The last in John Tusa's series which examines universal themes in a 20th-century context

8.30 Putting the Boot In. See Choice

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight with Robin Lustig in Blackpool and *Isabel Hilton in London*

10.45 Book at Bedtime Live!: Into the Heart of Borneo From *the Cheltenham Festival of* Literature, Redmond O'Hanlon reads his travel *adventure* (3/5)

11.00 Desmond Olivier Dingle's Compleat Life and Works of William Shakespeare by Desmond Olivier Dingle. Last of the comedy series

11.30 *If You're So Clever, Why Aren't You Rich?* Comedy drama about three thirtysomethings. With Richard E Grant, Amanda Root and Peter Capaldi (r)

12.00 News and weather

12.30am The Late Book: The Information. An abridged reading of Martin Amis's novel by William Nighy (8/15)

12.48 Shipping Forecast **1.00** As World Service **5.55** The Radio 4UK Theme

FREQUENCY GUIDE. **RADIO 1.** FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). *CLASSIC FM.* FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO UK.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson**

The implausible case of the forgotten feline

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

Sherlock Holmes famously asked the question about the dog barking in the night. As concerns the current three-part thriller in **The Bill** (ITV), I would ask you to consider the woman *returning* to a fire to rescue her cat. Yes, as any fool knows, poor June Ackland (Trudie Goodwin) has been persecuted by a maniac in the past two episodes. On Friday she was shot at (luckily a civilian took the bullet); then her flat was torched. For June, it's been one of those weeks when nothing goes right. Last night, she removed to a safe house with a hacking cough and supplied a list of suspects. And though the unfolding investigation is well done (tomorrow, Thursday, will see the conclusion), Holmes's barking dog question just keeps nagging. For just as the dog did not bark, June did not go back for her cat. Isn't that the strangest thing?

For *The Bill*, this sensational three-parter is an experiment. The series has always prided itself on its compact, discrete half-hours, and is vehement about not becoming a soap. But it is possible that the format grows tired. Personally I miss *The Bill* more often than I watch it, simply because there is no particular reason to keep up. Its strengths remain its casual authority on police matters, its ingenuity in finding half-hour plots, and the staying-power of the cast. For this three-parter, DS Jo Morgan (the woman who looks like Jo Durie) has returned from the Regional Crime Squad, which is nice.

Who is after June? Lines of inquiry have been exhausted. On Thursday, she will return to the streets, to draw fire, in an episode entitled "Bait". The difficulty for a non-soap character is that she can't react as a woman; apart from anything else, there's no time. She has burst into tears just once. When Meadows and Morgan wanted details of her private life, she railed against the intrusion, because, well, June is a character who doesn't remember she has a cat. "I'm very unattached," she declared. But people *always* go back for the cat; they struggle outside with flint-hearted firemen, yelling "Tibbles!" June escaped and forgot all about it. Only when she returned to the blackened flat next day and tripped over the cat did she recollect its existence. At least this tells us who the sniper is, anyway. He is the militant arm of the Cats Protection League.

The clever thing about BBC1's **Crimewatch File** these days is that the police reconstruction scenes are so woodenly lifelike, it's hard for the viewer to establish whether the figures on screen are real police or not. In fact, they are actors. But they are a special sort of actor who can deliver stilted rhubarb in the authentic manner of a limelit copper, and who can raise a hand in the incident room to contribute a scripted thought complete with the speech-marks. "He used a lot of control over Emma," says one. "Used to giving orders?"

The case last night concerned a south London rapist, caught with the help of 600 *Crimewatch* viewers. Last week, in the horribly choreographed trailers for *Crimewatch UK* (with Nick Ross and Jill Dando busily criss-crossing an office), they told us "Even if you've never solved a clue in *Crimewatch*, tune in on Tuesday" — as though recognising a murder implement is the same sort of thing as getting a number on the lottery. But with 600 people phoning in about the rapist, perhaps that's how the show really works. Perhaps many people sit with the phone on their lap during *Crimewatch*, dialling in after every item. "I know that man!" "I've been there!" "That's my old car!" "I did it myself!"

Last night's case was ideal for *Crimewatch File*, since it combined a cast-iron result with a flattering picture of efficient and sensible police work. It also culminated in an impressive, *Cracker*-style interview. "You are not a cold and callous person, John," the cunning detective told his rapist (who was denying everything). "Otherwise you would not have shown Emma such acts of kindness afterwards." The rapist recognised this picture of himself, and confessed all. It was amazing. To a psychopath, you see, rape is just an unconventional way of making friends.

On the larkier side of the law, the continuing solicitor sit-com **Is It Legal?** (ITV) concerned a recognised office phenomenon — the glamorous newcomer. Peter (Raymond Coulthard) looked like the blond cartoon John Smith in *Pocahontas*, and was such a hit with all the impressionable no-hopers that they swarmed around him, offering gifts. Even the golf-obsessed Dick (Jeremy Clyde) shared the infatuation, and presented Peter with a rather nice Nick Faldo doll, complete with teensy golf bag and clubs. Meanwhile, Patrick Barlow's infatuation with the Mister Bappy delivery girl is still heartbreaking, and the fillings grow ever more desperate as a mark of his feelings. Last night she walked in announcing "Brown sugar and mustard bap". What a sad, sad case.

Polishing off the evening was an enjoyable *Late Show* film. **Mondrian: Mr Boogie-Woogie Man** (BBC2). Mondrian was the Philip Larkin of art: a stiff man in a suit and specs, passionate about jazz, too cheap to get married, and a genius at seeing the shape between the lines. Matthew Collings wrote and narrated, with bits of high-quality opinion from Robert Hughes, and a Mondrian lookalike dancing a very curvy Charleston in a strictly cubed Mondrian room.

Mondrian was a theosophist who hated nature and chaos, as might have been deduced from the pictures. "His ideas were hogwash," laughed Hughes. "But his paintings never were."

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (93459)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (86062091)

9.05 Mastermind Finals (r) (s) (3754850)

9.35 The Fanelli Boys (8657904)

10.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (5274508)

10.05 Conference Live 95: The Conservative Party (s) (94327343) **12.50pm Regional news** and weather (30813035)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) (72817)

1.30 Neighbours. Philip's weight-watching gives Marlene a sales opportunity. (Ceefax) (s) (91094159) **1.50 Hawkeye** (s) (7075188) **Northern Ireland:** Island Race 2.20 The Great British Quiz 2.45-5.00 Sportsnight Special: Liechtenstein v Northern Ireland

2.35 Island Race (r) (Ceefax) (s) (8969701) **3.05 The Great British Quiz** (s) (8688614)

3.30 Ants in Your Pants (s) (8496701) **3.50 ChuckleVision** (r) (s) (8483237) **4.10 Get Your Own Back** (Ceefax) (s) (1955614) **4.35 Pirates** (Ceefax) (s) (2657546)

5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (9816966) **5.10 Blue Peter** (Ceefax) (s) (2191121)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (114343) **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) (508)

6.30 Regional news magazines (188) **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

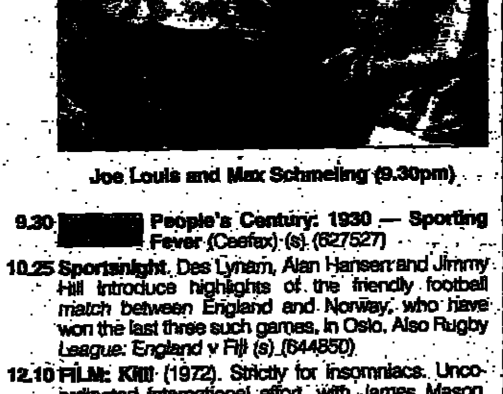
7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel opens the red book. (Ceefax) (s) (5053)

7.30 As Time Goes By. Jean worries that Lionel's work prospects are looking less than rosy and when she tackles his publisher to stop him poaching her secretary, she discovers Lionel has been a little economical with the truth. Sit-com with Judi Dench and Geoffrey Palmer (r) (Ceefax) (s) (512)

8.00 How Do They Do That? Includes the secret of how dragsters get their cars to accelerate from nought to 240mph in just six seconds; and Alison Streeter explains how she has swum the English Channel 32 times, plus a three-way, non-stop Channel swim. With Eamonn Holmes (Ceefax) (s) (438695)

8.45 Points of View with Anne Robinson (Ceefax) (s) (221188)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (4546)



Joe Louis and Max Schmeling (9.30pm)

9.30 [illegible] **People's Century: 1930 — Sporting Fever** (Ceefax) (s) (627527)

10.25 Sportsnight. Des Lynam, Alan Hansen and Jimmy Hill introduce highlights of the friendly football match between England and Norway, who have won the last three such games, in Oslo. Also Rugby League: England v Fiji (s) (644850)

12.10 FILM: Kill! (1972). Strictly for insomniacs. Uncoordinated international effort, with James Mason, Stephen Boyd and Jean Seberg involved in a tale of Interpol and drug-smuggling. Also on board: Curt Jurgens and Daniel Emilfork. Directed by Romain Gary (s) (714706)

1.55am Weather (3606305)

BBC2

6.00am The Learning Zone: Pandora's Box (84701)

7.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax and signing) (1764625)

7.15 Lassie (9230701) **7.40 Stingray** (r) (Ceefax) (9340492) **8.05 Pirates of Dark Water** (r) (Ceefax) (8768184)

8.30 Betjeman in Australia (r) (6004527) **8.55 Holiday Outings: Galway** (3762879) **9.00 Seeing Through Science** (s) (5587072) **9.25 English Express** (s) (6854782)

9.45 Words and Pictures (s) (6142898) **10.00 Playdays** (r) (s) (1002492) **10.25 Numbertime** (s) (2054072) **10.45 Cats' Eyes** (s) (1450411)

11.00 Around Scotland (s) (5506324) **11.20 Music Makers** (s) (3848898) **11.40 Moving to English** (Ceefax) (s) (3450614) **12.00 TV6** (s) (75879)

12.30pm Working Lunch (s) (17343)

1.00 The Geography Programme (s) (81035072)

1.20 Zig Zag: UK Geography (81022508) **1.40 German Globo** (s) (91718492) **1.45 Come Outside** (s) (26818614) **2.00 Johnson and Friends** (s) (12648492)

2.10 Conference Live 95: The Conservative Party (s) (93033053)

5.30 Floyd on Italy (r) (Ceefax) (s) (237)

6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (Ceefax) (s) (107607)

6.45 They Who Dare (r) (Ceefax) (s) (611072) **Wales:** Delia Smith's Winter Collection (526053) 7.15 International Football: Wales v Germany (32680633) 9.30 The Boat (308782)

7.00 The Boat. Drama series. In German with English subtitles (r) (205411)

7.50 A Week to Remember (272527)

8.00 [illegible] **Delia Smith's Winter Collection** (Ceefax) (s) (2343)

8.30 FILM: Morning Glory (1992). Christopher Reeve in Depression-era romantic drama. Directed by Steven Hilliard Stern (58053)

Grace (Brett Butler) and children (10.00pm)

10.00 Grace Under Fire (Ceefax) (s) (76508)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (290817)

11.15 The Spin. Media series. (145053)

11.55 Weather 12.00 Fast Forward (s) (35305)

12.30am The Learning Zone: The Chemistry of Survival. (92102) **1.00 Synthesis of a Drug** (90367) **1.30 The Chemistry of Power** (28638) **2.00 Night School: History File** (45589) **4.00 Benefits Agency Today** (18560725) **4.15 Television Training** (17015) **4.45 Disability Today** (64703386)

5.00-6.00 Voluntary Sector Television (77928)

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CHOICE

Delia Smith eschews the gimmicks (BBC2, 8.00pm)

Delia Smith's Winter Collection
BBC2, 8.00pm

Reliable, unfussy Delia opens her new cookery series by showing us how to poach an egg. You cannot imagine Keith Floyd doing that, but if he did, he would find some eccentric location and spice up his act with asides to the cameraman and liberal slurps of red wine. Delia remains as she has been for 22 years, gimmick-free. There are no jokes, no travelogues, no playing to the gallery. The cookery is the thing, served up straight. The *Winter Collection* is the successor to the *Summer Collection* and comprises another batch of seasonal recipes, relatively simple to make and tested to destruction. If limes were the featured fruit in the last series, the star this time is the cranberry.

Bliss
ITV, 8.30pm

Simon Shepherd from *Peak Practice* grows a beard and plays a research scientist in a tall tale which has just enough basis in fact to raise a shiver or two. The premise is the discovery, which, we are assured, is not far away, of a gene that will prolong human life. But in Michael Stewart's script "the scientific breakthrough of the century" gets into the wrong hands and a series of women pay gruesomely with their lives. Science fiction is combined with horror and there is also a detective story as Shepherd's Dr Sam Bliss tries to save the next victim before she, too, expires in a pool of blood. But he, and we, have to wade through a lot of plot to get there and while some of it is ingenious, a clearer narrative line would have helped.

Dispatches
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The current affairs series returns for a new season with a characteristically robust contribution to the debate about school exam results. The report claims that A level and GCSE exams are getting easier because of competition between examination boards. It argues that some boards have less demanding standards than others and to perform well in the Government's league tables schools will switch from board to board to get better results. Boards which lose "business" are forced to make their papers easier. To back up its allegations, *Dispatches* cites the school where the brightest sixth-formers took the A-level physics exam of one board and less able pupils of another. The two groups ended up with the same number of A grades.

People's Century: 1930 — Sporting Fever
BBC1, 9.30pm

The oral history series takes a break from the big political events to chart the growth of mass spectator sport in the inter-war period. To followers of sport the episodes featured will be familiar enough: the first football World Cups, the "bodyline" Test series, the Joe Louis-Max Schmeling fights and Hitler's Berlin Olympics. But they are used to make the point that the ripples of sport were spreading far beyond the field of play. This was the age of big crowds, growing commercialism and the exploitation of sport for national prestige. Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin were all doing it in their different ways while in Latin America football matches between Uruguay and Argentina were war by other means. **Peter Waymark**

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (7210459)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep (s) (5584985)

9.55 London Today (Teletext) (1029169)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (9945850)

10.35 This Morning Magazine show (39361527)

12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (4569695)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) (9913850)

12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (9938169)

1.25 Coronation Street (r) (s) (22728121)

1.55 Shortland Street (91082324)

2.20 Vanessa (Teletext) (s) (44086411)

2.50 Material World (8950053)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (3602053)

3.25 London Today (Teletext) (4052594)

3.30 Alphabet Castle (s) (4106459) **3.40 Wizadora** (s) (1980492) **3.50 The Story Store** (s) (4100275) **4.05 Animaniacs** (9795343) **4.15 Wolf It: The Next Generation** (Teletext) (s) (534072)

4.45 Bad Influence (s) (2648898)

5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating includes an interview with Julie Walters and Robert Lindsay, stars of *Jake's Progress*. (Teletext) (1055817)

5.40 ITN News and weather (Teletext) (455237)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (392275)

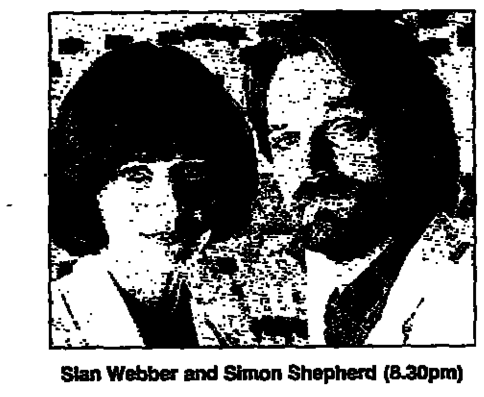
6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (904)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (256)

7.00 Wheel of Fortune (s) (2891)

7.30 Coronation Street (Teletext) (140)

8.00 Police, Camera, Action! International. Alastair Stewart takes the front seat with traffic police throughout the world to witness some of the often life-threatening behaviour of some drivers. They include drug-takers, drunks and nine children crammed into one car (s) (6169)



Sian Webber and Simon Shepherd (8.30pm)

8.30 CHOICE **Bliss.** Drama written by the novelist Michael Stewart. (Teletext) (s) (52879)

10.00 ITN News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (96362)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (953904)

10.40 FILM: Best Defense (1984). A not very funny film, starring Dudley Moore, Eddie Murphy and Kate Capshaw. It is about the KGB, a new super-tank which runs amok while on American army trials in Kuwait, and a designer who inadvertently acquires the blueprint (52844527)

12.25am Profile (s) (4911560)

12.40 The Little Picture Show (2755034)

1.40 The Album Show looks at *Help*, the charity album which has been raising money for the child victims of the war in Bosnia (s) (3307015)

2.40 Hollywood Report (s) (5908589)

3.10 America's Top Ten (r) (s) (86734560)

3.35 Sport AM (r) (3843251)

4.30 Profile (r) (s) (40473638)

4.35 One Life to Live (24048725)

5.00 Vanessa: Stalkers (r) (Teletext) (s) (64454)

5.30 ITN Morning News (23560). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Heathcliff (r) (6862546)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (55140)

9.00 Sabotage Women-only quiz (r) (s) (73411)

9.30 Schools: Good Health (6132411) **9.45** Book Box (6137966) **10.00** Stage Two Science (2046053) **10.15** Making Sense of Science (283701) **10.45** *Your World* (2200782) **10.55** *Film and Video Showcase* (1476459) **11.07** Schools at Work (2059850) **11.15** *The Mix* (3845701) **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (3465546) **11.45** First Edition (3453701)

12.00pm Profiles of Nature: Hawks (r) (93275)

12.30 Sesame Street. The guest is Rick Moranis (46508) **1.30 Lift Off** (r) (s) (99962)

2.00 One Fine Day A short paying tribute to the fight for women's lib in America (97465695)

2.05 FILM: Mama's Going to Buy You a Mockingbird (1988) starring Linda Griffiths and Geoff Bowes. Drama about a family coming to terms with their father's cancer. Directed by Sandy Wilson (835072)

4.00 Dream Huts. The charm of the beach huts of the Southwold, Sussex (r) (Teletext) (169)

4.30 Fifteen to One (Teletext) (s) (463)

5.00 Ricki Lake. What Happened When Ricki Answered My Letter. (Teletext) (s) (1173430)

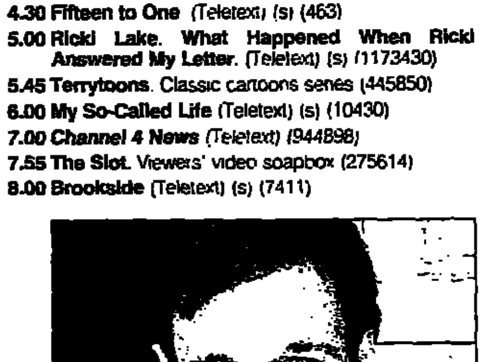
5.45 Terrytoons. Classic cartoons series (445850)

6.00 My So-Called Life (Teletext) (s) (10430)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (944898)

7.55 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (275614)

8.00 Brookside (Teletext) (s) (7411)



Edward Whitely on the trail of mink (8.30pm)

8.30 Absolutely Animals introduced by Dani Behr. Tom Alty explains his mission to educate the public on the value of classic pig breeds; Helen Richards meets Martin Lacey, an animal trainer, and Diane Westwood, an animal rights activist, to discuss whether circuses are cruel to performing animals; and Edward Whitely investigates the appeal of the British mink. (Teletext) (s) (6546)

9.00 CHOICE **Dispatches.** A report on school exam results. (Teletext) (294121)

9.45 Tales of Battered Britain: The Father's Tale Martin Wallace's personal film, offering an alternative view as to why Jon Venables and Robert Thompson killed Jamie Bulger in 1993. Television and video violence were not to blame, he believes *the real reason was boredom.* (Teletext) (s) (725695)

10.00 Northern Exposure. Off-beat American comedy drama series set in Alaska (Teletext) (s) (221527)

10.55 Devil's Advocate. Darcus Howe questions the value of the National Lottery (s) (209430)

11.45 Rory Bremner — Who Else? (r) (s) (622850)

12.20 FILM: Reefer and the Model (1988) starring Ian McElhinney. A thriller with a sense of (black) humour set in modern Ireland where Reefer, a former IRA man, teams up with two old friends and a former prostitute (the Model) to rob a bank. Written and directed by Joe Comerford (Teletext) (323299)

2.05am Branford Marsalis — Steep The jazz saxophonist, brother of Wynton, *in concert* (r) (s) (463183). Ends at **3.45**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: **12.55** Coronation Street (9938169) **1.25** *Home and Away* (22728121) **1.55-2.20** A Country Practice (91082324) **2.50-3.20** Gardening Time (8950053) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (1055817) **6.25** Anglia Weather (375633) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (256) **10.40** Film: *La Bamba* (83936121) **12.40am** The War of the Worlds (5327454) **1.35** *Hollywood Report* (3352744) **2.05** Shift (1550763) **2.55** America's Top Ten (7430947) **4.20** Nile Bites (44525676) **4.30** The Time... the Place (77706)

CENTRAL

As London except: **1.55-2.20** A Country Practice (91082324) **2.50-3.20** Gardening Time (8950053) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (1055817) **6.25** Central News and Weather (884904) **6.55-7.00** Life Line (977275) **10.40** Film: The Man with One Red Shoe (86836091) **12.20am** Profile (4903541) **4.30** Jobfinder (1495218) **5.20** Asian Eye (4399947)

GRANADA

As London except: **12.55-1.25** Shortland Street (9938169) **1.25** Home and Away (81032695) **1.50** Vanessa (47901898) **2.20** *Videofashion* (44086411) **2.50-3.20** Coronation Street (8950053) **3.25-3.30** Granada News (4052594) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (1055817) **6.25-7.00** Granada Tonight (364343) **10.30** Granada News (953904) **10.40-12.40** Film: Tough Enough (83936121) **3.35-4.35** Jobfinder (3104164)

HTV WEST

As London except: **9.55-10.00** HTV West Headlines (1029169) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV West News and Weather (4569695) **12.55-1.20** Shortland Street (5189701) **1.20** Coronation Street (22729850) **2.50-3.20** Second Bite (8950053) **3.25-3.30** HTV West Headlines (4052594) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (1055817) **6.30-7.00** *HTV News* (256) **10.30** HTV West News and Weather (844256) **10.45** *Father Dowling Investigates* (926695) **11.40** Prisoner Cell Block H (233782) **3.35am** *Jobfinder* (3104164)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: **2.50-3.20** Primetime (8950053) **3.25-3.30** HTV Wales News (4052594) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (256)

MERIDIAN

As London except: **12.55** Coronation Street (9938169) **1.25** Home and Away (22728121) **1.55-2.20** *A Country Practice* (91082324) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (8950053) **5.10** Home and Away (1055817) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes — Freescreen (372411) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (904) **6.30-7.00** Ridgeriders (256) **10.45** Coastguard Rescue! (805072) **11.15** Time Trax (805898) **12.10am** Good Advice (8197454) **12.40** The War of the Worlds (5327454) **1.35** Hollywood Report (3352744) **2.05** *Shift* (1550763) **2.55** America's Top Ten (7480947) **4.20** Nile Bites (44525676) **4.30** *The Time... the Place* (77706) **5.00** Freescreen (84454)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: **12.25-12.30** My Story (4577614) **12.55** Coronation Street (9938169) **1.25** Home and Away (22728121) **1.55-2.20** The Young Doctors (91082324) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (8950053) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (1055817) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (29188) **10.40** Power Game (746695) **11.10** Hunter (533169) **12.10am** Short Story Cinema (8197454) **3.35** Jobfinder (3104164)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: **12.55** Coronation Street (9938169) **1.25** Home and Away (22728121) **1.55-2.20** A Country Practice (91082324) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (8950053) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (1055817) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (651256) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (256) **10.40** Film: Fire: Trapped on the 37th Floor (86799121) **12.30am** Murder, She Wrote (2743299) **1.25** Hollywood Report (3554299) **1.55** Videofashion (2838638) **2.25** The Album Show (9158183) **3.25** Noisy Mothers (2171560) **4.20** Jobfinder (8594367)

S4C

Starts: **7.00** The Big Breakfast (55140) **9.00** Sabotage (73411) **9.30** Ysgolion/schools (52445) **9.30** Good Health (6132411) **9.45** Book Box (6137966) **10.00** Stage Two Science (2046053) **10.15** Making Sense of Science (283701) **10.45** Your World (2200782) **10.55** Film and Video Showcase (1476459) **11.07** Schools At Work (2059850) **11.15** The Mix (3845701) **11.30** Rat-a-tat-tat (3465546) **11.45** First Edition (3453701) **12.00pm** Travelog in France (93275) **12.30** Widget (52481) **1.00** Slot Meithrin: *Mister* Morgan (65527) **1.30** Wild West Country (99962) **2.00** One Fine Day (97465695) **2.05** Film: Mama's Going to Buy You a Mockingbird (835072) **4.00** *Dream Huts* (169) **4.30** Wild Britain (463) **5.00** 5 Pump: Rownd A Rownd (9025053) **5.15** 5 Pump: Flid (9811411) **5.30** Fifteen To One (633) **6.00** *Newyddion* (381507) **6.15** Heno (503512) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (965188) **7.25** Pil-droed (30862237) **9.30** Pengelli (22275) **10.00** Brookside (94904) **10.30** Northern Exposure (929782) **11.25** Dispatches (882072) **12.10am** Battered Britain: Fighting Back (9534763) **1.10** The Golden Girls (4267560)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

7.00am DJ Kat (14091) **8.00** Power Rangers (34546) **8.30** Jeopardy (33817) **9.00** Court TV (24169) **9.30** Oprah Winfrey (26817) **10.30** Blockbusters (13053) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (98879) *12.00 Spellbound* (37633) **12.30pm** Designing Women (53169) **1.00** The Waltons (41324) **2.00** Geraldo (67411) **3.00** Court TV (9898) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey (3628898) **4.20** Kids TV (1014904) **4.30** Shoot! (1121) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (3850) **6.00** Power Rangers (2614) **6.30** *Spellbound* (3968) **7.00** *LAPD* (1879) **7.30** M*A*S*H (2850) **8.00** Earth 2 (88879) **9.00** Picket Fences (91343) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (94430) **11.00** Law and Order (71512) **12.00** David Letterman (5787270) **12.45am** Double Take (7152657) **1.30** Anything But Love (64015) *2.00-6.00 Hit Mix* (3305763)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (3870343) **9.30** Special Report (24459) **10.30** ABC Nightline (11695) **1.30pm** CBS News (70140) **2.30** Newsmaker (61053) **3.30** Spellbound (4072) **6.30** Tonight (36546) **8.30** The O.J. Simpson Trial (4483053) **12.30am** *CBS News* (89812) **1.30** Tonight (42102) **2.30** Alan Dershowitz (26299) **3.30** Spellbound (21744) **4.30** CBS News (79744) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (41980)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (1598633) **10.00 Caught in the Act** (1993). Mystery thriller (57985) **12.00 Fatso** (1980). With Dom DeLuise (71614) **2.00pm Bushfire Moon** (1987): Yuletide drama (85782) **4.00 Ladybug Ladybug** (1963): A nuclear attack causes chaos (8782) **6.00 Caught in the Act:** as 10am (51985) **7.30 E! News Week in Review** (7546) **8.00 Fatal Instinct** (1993). Spoof with Armand Assante (16661) **10.00 On Deadly Ground** (1994). Steven Seagal fights Michael Caine's oil company (237459) **11.45 Hollywood Dreams** (1992): Erotic drama (356701) **1.15am Those Lips, Those Eyes** (1980): Drama drama (785229) **3.00 Daybreak** (1993): Science fiction (22239) **4.30-6.30 Fatso:** As noon (74239)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

12.00 Kiss Me Kate (1953): Musical (28121) **2.00pm Gunga Din** (1939): With Cary Grant (81504) **4.00 The Lady from Shanghai** (1948): Orson Welles mystery (18071) **6.30 The Big Country** (1958): Western with Gregory Peck (56282879) **9.15 The Hostage Tower** (1980): Peter Fonda kidnaps the President's mother (58579527) **10.00 Faster, Pussycat! Kill! Kill!** (1965). *Cult offering from Russ Meyer* (757898) **11.35 The Panic in Needle Park** (1971) With Al Pacino (612546) **1.25-3.05am Love in the Afternoon** (1972): Marital drama (260657)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Tarzan and the Amazons (1945): With Johnny Weissmuller (80986) **8.00 Tom Sawyer** (1986): Cartoon (55530) **9.00 The New Adventures of Little Toot** (1993) Animation (67546) **10.00 Cinderfella** (1960): Comedy (55527) **12.00 Francis** (1950): Donald O'Connor befriends a talking mule (79256) **2.00pm She Wore a Yellow Ribbon** (1949): Western with John Wayne (83324) **4.00 Tom Sawyer:** as 8am (71091) *5.00 The New Adventures of Little Toot:* as 9am (6188) **6.00 Dead Man's Revenge** (1993): Western (66148) **8.00 The House of the Spirits** (1994): Drama (58911411) **10.20 My Life** (1993). With Michael Keaton (963362) **12.20am American Heart** (1993): Family drama (509657) **2.15 The Adventures of the Flying Pickle** (1993): Comedy (152657) **4.00-6.00 She Wore a Yellow Ribbon:** as 2pm (23744)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree (91185169) **6.30** Muppet Babies (13752362) **7.00** Winnie the Pooh (59662121) **7.30** Ducktales (59681256) **8.00** Chip 'n' Dale (24946782) **8.30** Adventures in Wonderland (24945053) **9.00** Fraggle Rock (24969633) **9.30** Pooh Corner (91853237) **10.00** Dumbo's Circus (13743614) *10.30 Donald's Quack Attack* (24965817) **11.00** Walt Disney Presents (59690904) **12.00** FILM: Davy Crockett (13723850) **2.00pm** Wonderland (65621169) **2.30** Under the Umbrella Tree (23854701) **3.00** Fraggle Rock (65633904) **3.30** Winnie the Pooh (23866546) **4.00** Donald's Quack Attack (23845053) **4.30** Ducktales (23841237) **5.00** Chip 'n' Dale (65605121) **5.30** Danger Bay (23865817) **6.00** Tarzan (23855430) **6.30** Dinosaurs (23846782) **7.00** Flipper (21800904) **8.00** Sinbad (65634633) **8.30** Tonkalsons (65613140) **9.00-10.00** Voyager (21806188)

Jeremy Irons and Meryl Streep (The Movie Channel, 8pm)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Sports Centre (48898) **7.30** Wrestling Mania (10633) **8.30** Aerobics (68188) **9.00** The Footballer's Show (89782) **10.00** Shooting (58817) **11.00** Pub Quiz (91879) **11.30** Get Your Handicap Down (82508) **12.00** Aerobics (62904) **12.30pm** American Sports (31275) **1.30** *Muscle Night* (32904) **2.30** Cricket — Hong Kong Sixes (67904) *4.30 Mountain Bikes (3575) 5.00 Wrestling* Superstars (2904) **6.00** Sports Centre (1140) **6.30** Rugby (2492) **7.00** Soccer (3633) **7.30** Football, Live: Norway v England (808072) **10.30** Sports Centre (49053) **11.00** Golf (57546) **12.00** Soccer (95725) **12.30am** Norway v England (11096) **2.30** Rugby (25812) **3.00-3.30** Sports Centre (76386)

EUROSPORT

8.30am Aerobics (40508) **9.30** Gymnastics (64091) **10.30** Triathlon (22527) **11.30** BMX (10904) **12.00** Motors (17430) **2.00pm** Chess (4985) **2.30** Snooker (52072) **4.30** Equestrianism (41237) *5.30 Duathlon* (54275) **6.30** Motorcycling (7188) **7.00** *Formula 1* (8701) *7.30 News* (6072) **8.00** Boxing (42091) **9.00** Truck Racing (39527) **10.00** Football (13091) **12.00** Formula 1 (80893) **12.30** Motorcycling (52522) **1.00-1.30am** News (81218)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (4683169) **8.30** Peyton Place (4675140) **9.00** As the World Turns (6555546) **10.00** Guiding Light (2031966) **11.00-12.00** Another World (2044430)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Globetrotter (4686256) **12.30pm** Wide World of Kids (5739140) **1.00** Roads to Freedom (2055546) **1.30** Pierre Franey (5738411) **2.00** Getaway (1507256) **2.30** Europe (9735985) **3.00** Independent Travellers (4004169) *4.00 Travel* (9726237) **4.30** Zoovie (9715121) **5.00** Italy (1598508) **5.30** Around the World (9739701) **6.00** Travels in Europe (9736614) **6.30** Discover Your World (9727966) **7.00** Florida! (1501072) **7.30** Getaway (9716850) **8.00** Around the World (1587492) **8.30** Travel Guide (1506527) **9.00** *Destinations* (4012188) **9.30** *Discover Your World* (5759904) **10.00** Florida! (4687985) **10.30** Italy (4696633) **11.00** Globetrotter (4017633) **11.30-12.00** America (4773966)

TLC

9.00am Tonia Todman (7220633) **9.30** Eat Your Greens (7803898) **10.00** Off the Beaten Track (1967237) **10.30** Love Story (7226817) *11.00 Only Human (9705275) 12.00 Men in a Woman's World* (7217169) **12.30pm** *Jimmy's* (7807614) **1.00** Eat Your Greens (9709091) **1.30** Tonia Todman (7806985) **2.00** Heaven Must Wait (1968966) **3.00** Off the Beaten Track (9738275) **3.30-4.00** Go Fishing (7923904)

UK GOLD

7.00am Five Children and It (9779850) **7.30** Neighbours (9798985) **8.00** Sons and *Daughters* (7209140) **8.30** *EastEnders* (7208411) **9.00** The Bill (7222091) **9.30** The Sullivans (7805256) **10.00** All Creatures Great and Small (9794169) **11.00** Dallas (9707633) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7218527) **12.30** Neighbours (7809072) **1.00** EastEnders (9778121) **1.30** The Bill (7808343) **2.00** The Sullivans (51774343) **3.00** Angels (9738633) **3.30** Eldorado (7925362) **4.00** Casualty (33248643) **5.05** Every Second Counts (4599966) **5.45** Are You Being Served? (4215904) **6.25** EastEnders (9056091) **7.00** Eldorado (9730614) **7.30** French Fields (7901782) **8.00** Angels (3024362) **8.25** FILM: *Carry On Abroad* (1972) (55583614) **10.00** The Bill (2919527) **10.35** Album Show (51133850) **11.40** Reilly (2943850) **12.40am** Dr Who (1368454) **1.05** Fox (9127831) **2.00** Triangle (3905638) **2.30** Shopping (2015386)

TCC

6.00am Casper (93411) **7.00** Pink Panther (71701) **7.30** Ready or Not (67508) **8.00** Sweet Valley High (98343) **8.30** *Casper* (5679188) **8.45** Dinobabies (5687343) **9.00** *Sesame Street* (30430) **10.00** Tiny TCC (24256) **12.00** Barney (91430) **12.30pm** Tiny TCC (24362) **2.30** Madeline (2459) **3.00** Sonic (2782) **3.30** The New Pink Panther Show (7904) **4.00** California Dreams (8411) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (2695)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Hero Turtles (2803633) **7.45** Rugrats (365879) **8.15** The Ferals (450411) *8.45 Duckula (8331184) 9.00 Nick Jr* (153169) **12.00** Lunchbox (60546) **12.30pm** Pee-Wee (79782) **1.00** The Ferals (38411) **1.30** Dungeons (78053) **2.00** Denver (7459) **2.30** Galaxy High (8053) **3.00** Duckula (6966) **3.30** The North Wind (5558) **4.00** Hero Turtles (2633) **4.30** Rugrats (8817) **5.00** *Clarissa* (1411) *5.30 Aaagh!* (9189) **6.00** Doug (9782) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid? (3362)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Bird's Eye View (7902411) **4.30** Ambulance! (7908695) **5.00** Man on the Rim (9727527) *6.00 Future Quest* (9043898) *6.35* Beyond 2000 (5052850) **7.30** When the Lights Go Out (7909324) **8.00** Connections 2 (9737904) **8.30** Driving Passions (9716411) **9.00** Carriers (1344188) **10.00** Fangs! (1347275) **11.00** Voyager (5142850) **11.30-12.00** Nature Watch (1956121)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: *Night of the Ghouls* (1959): Horror (94320576) **1.15pm** The Invisible Man (2680072) **2.00** Saint (1955492) **3.00** Robin Hood (9723701) **3.30** The Protectors (7910430) **4.00** FILM: Passport to Pimlico *(1949): Ealing comedy* (3397633) *5.30 FILM* Something to Cry About (7919701) **6.00** Death Valley Days (7916814) **6.30** Scotland Yard (7907966) **7.00** The Invisible Man (9715782) **7.30** Robin Hood (7996850) **8.00** Saint (1311850) **9.00** Sapphire and Steel (5174459) **9.30** Dead at 21 (7814904) **10.00-12.00** *FILM:* Last Exit to Brooklyn (1989): Brutal drama (5158411)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony (9748121) **7.00** Living (1112614) **9.00** Bazaar (7273701) **9.30** Kate and Allie (1492508) **10.00** Hearts of Gold (1191121) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (4897695) **11.55** Delia Smith (6864782) **12.30pm** Brookside (4224817) **1.05** Kilroy (6625072) **2.00** Agony (4719169) *3.00 Living* (9326140) *4.00 Infatuation UK* **4.30** Crosswits (7924256) **5.05** The Joker's *Wild 5.30 Bewitched* (9087817) **6.00** Esther (9077430) **6.30** Brookside (3761614) **7.05** *Infatuation UK* **7.35** The Joker's Wild (6099850) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (2326121) **9.00** Cagney and Lacey (2348985) **10.00** Charlie's Angels (2349072) **11.00-12.00** Dangerous Women (1192850)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Wonder Years (4527) **5.30** Tintin (918256) **5.50** Batman (476527) **6.25** Catchphrase (454332) **7.00** Word in Your Ear (7091) **7.30** Fall Guy (12527) **8.30** Duty Free (2546) **9.00** Ruth Rendell Mysteries (62879) **10.00** Busman's Holiday (10919) **10.30** Moonlighting (87053) **11.30** Batman (40343) **12.00** *Fall Guy* (88096) **1.00pm** *Zorro* (16928) **1.30** Rhoda (42831) **2.00** Moonlighting (67812) **3.00** Rhoda (95164) **3.30** Zorro (84454) **4.00** Wonder Years (83837) **4.30-5.00** Black Stallion (97883)

MTV

6.00am Wildside (31140) **7.30** The Grind (69966) **8.00** 3 from 1 (9683782) **8.15** *Wildside* (9968411) **9.00** *VJ Maria* (799985) **12.00** Soul (29701) **1.00pm** Greatest Hits (67891) **2.00** Non-Stop (54546) **3.00** 3 from 1 (5189492) **3.15** Non-Stop (6741546) **4.00** Cinematic (3581782) **4.15** Hanging Out (3504633) *4.30* The Pulse (4053) **5.00** News **5.15** Hanging Out (5226169) **5.30** Dial MTV (8633) **6.00** Zig and Zag (5546) **6.30** Hanging Out (68558) **8.00** Greatest Hits (77701) **9.00** Most Wanted (58188) **10.30** Beavis (87237) **11.00** News **11.15** Cinematic (378459) **11.30** The State (42701) **12.00** The End? (45102) **1.30am** *Videos* (3403164)

VH-1

7.00am Power Breakfast (2054817) **9.00** *Cafe* (1766091) *12.00 Heart and Soul* (5750633) **1.00pm** Vinyl Years (5736053) **2.00** 10cc (4787169) **3.00** Into the Music (2311782) **6.00** 1-2-3 (5756817) **7.00** 1 for You (2278237) **8.00** Review (1589850) **8.30** Mick Hucknall (1508985) **9.00** Kermit the Frog (2267121) **10.00** Vinyl Years (2277508) *11.00 The Nightfly* (4007546) **1.00am** *Jimmy* Nail (5968367) **2.00** Dawn Patrol

ZEE TV

7.00am Asia (64670643) **8.30** Hum Paanch (54908817) **9.00** Kya Scene Hai (54999169) **9.30** Baansh Ke Baad (51268898) **10.30** Namaste India (54988053) **11.00** Tara (25811651) **12.00** Campus (54902633) **12.30pm** Khubsoorat (45716459) **1.00** Urdu FILM (96966904) **4.00** Top Ten (99225343) *5.00 Zone 5.30 Cheena Mook* (10268817) **6.00** Campus (10258430) **6.30** Zee and U **7.00** Aap Ki Adalat (66946508) **7.30** Film Deewane (10245966) **8.00** News **8.30** Banegi Apni Baat (66967091) **9.00** Hindi FILM (38402879) **11.30-12.00** Dandia (23265362)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Cartoons from 5am to 8pm, then TNT films.
8.00pm Lady in the Lake (1946) (21888782) **10.00 Julie** (1956) (32475898) **12.00 Jumbo** (1962) (34527980) **2.05 My Dream Is Yours** (1949) (97100928) **3.50-5.50 It's a Great Feeling** (1949) (7357225)

RUGBY UNION 42
DWYER ASKED TO CHANGE LUCK OF THE IRISH

SPORT

TENNIS 45
FAVOURABLE DRAW BOOSTS BRITAIN'S DAVIS CUP HOPES

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11 1995

England give youngster free role

Venables asks McManaman to take wing

FROM DAVID MILLER IN OSLO

EVERY so often, a player emerges who is capable of influencing not so much the result as the course of an international football match. An intelligent schemer-cum-scorer. Forty years ago, it was Bobby Charlton. Subsequently, there have been Martin Peters, Peter Beardsley, Paul Gascoigne and now, maybe, Steve McManaman.

For the match against Norway here tonight, Terry Venables has given McManaman a simultaneous freedom and responsibility that speaks volumes about the England coach's confidence in the range of ability of Liverpool's young attacking midfield player. Others in the past, such as Laurie Cunningham and John Barnes, have never fulfilled their potential. McManaman has a tenacity that could help to lead England towards a new dawn.

This is less an occasion for revenge, for the embarrassment that befell Graham Taylor's misbegotten selection two years ago, than for England to discover a compact, functional style away from home. McManaman has been given a licence within that framework to do almost as he pleases.

Venables has instructed him to give width, on either flank, and, if he cannot find freedom there, to seek it through the middle. It would be premature to suggest that McManaman stands on the threshold of greatness, yet he is aware that he has the chance to be an inspiration in a side short of excellence.

The key to his potential lies not only in his thrilling ability to beat opponents but also in his background: a member of what is still arguably the most articulate team in England, built, as for the past 30 years, upon retaining possession. Liverpool is the academy that was once found at West Ham United. "If you want to see our [emphasis on] passing, come and watch us training," McManaman said yesterday.

He shares the midfield with Jamie Redknapp, his equally promising young colleague, plus Robert Lee and Dennis Wise. There is an exciting vein of confidence running through this team, in which four players are 23 or under. "We want to make it difficult for Gascoigne to get back in the side," McManaman said, without a hint of immodesty.

Liverpool, in his opinion, are playing even better than last year, and he has that streak of assertiveness that was seen in young Alan Ball, Peters and Geoff Hurst at the time of England's last long-ago glory. "You have to establish yourself, to stamp your authority," McManaman said. It is the attitude that Venables seeks and needs.

OSLO TEAMS

NORWAY (4-4-2): E Thorstvedt (Tottenham Hotspur) — K P Loken (Rosenborg), R Johnsen (Besiktas), H Berg (Blackburn Rovers), S I Bjornebye (Liverpool) — L Bohinen (Nottingham Forest), O Leonhardsen (Wimbledon), K Rekdal (Lierse), M Jakobsen (Rosenborg) — T A Flo (Tromso), J A Fjortoft (Middlesbrough).

ENGLAND (4-4-2): D Seaman (Arsenal) — G Neville (Manchester United), A Adams (Arsenal), G Pallister (Manchester United), S Pearce (Nottingham Forest) — S McManaman (Liverpool), R Lee (Newcastle United), J Redknapp (Liverpool), D Wise (Chelsea) — N Barmby (Middlesbrough), A Shearer (Blackburn Rovers). Substitutes to be named

Venables has kept faith in attack with Alan Shearer, saying that he is unworried by the Blackburn Rovers striker's recent lack of goals. The coach is searching for that blend of character and skill without which any international team will flounder. Barmby and Shearer are considered to have this, so Ferdinand's chance must await the failure of the team or injury to his rivals, at least for now.

There is no direct replacement for Gascoigne. Lee effectively takes the place of Platt, with the responsibility to move into scoring positions, while Redknapp shares the up-and-down role more associated with Ince. The instructions to Barmby, as yet undisclosed, may be similar to those for Beardsley: tuck in behind Shearer.

Venables's prime concern is centred on defence against opposition that are masters of the swift, long-ball counter-attack. "Can we enjoy defending against a team that will take the ball to us?" Venables asks. Young Gary Neville is in the process of making the right back position his own — under challenge from Jones — but Pallister and the veteran Adams, surviving members of the ignominious 2-0 defeat here and with 54 caps between them, are perhaps playing for their places as much as the youngsters.

Jostein Flo, the lofty Sheffield United forward who caused England so much bother in 1993, is suspended from Norway's critical qualifying tie in Holland, and so is rested from a partially experimental Norway team. He is replaced by Tore Andre, his younger brother.

Although Norway suffered a run of poor results in the World Cup finals last year, Egil Olsen, their coach, will persist with their expedient, unattractive style. "I still prefer the long-ball game," he said yesterday, "the attempt to get forward as fast as possible after the breakdown. The coach of Rosenborg [who recently beat Blackburn] and me are the same."

Apart from the abandoned match in Dublin, this is the first match for Venables away from home. There were echoes of Sir Alf Ramsey yesterday in his dogmatic insistance that he would ride whatever criticisms there might be over his selection — the omission of Ferdinand, for instance. "It's the team I want," he said. "They did well at Wembley [against Colombia], and it's important to do the trick of both achieving a satisfactory result, which the public wants, and finding a pattern which will hold the team together and help it develop."

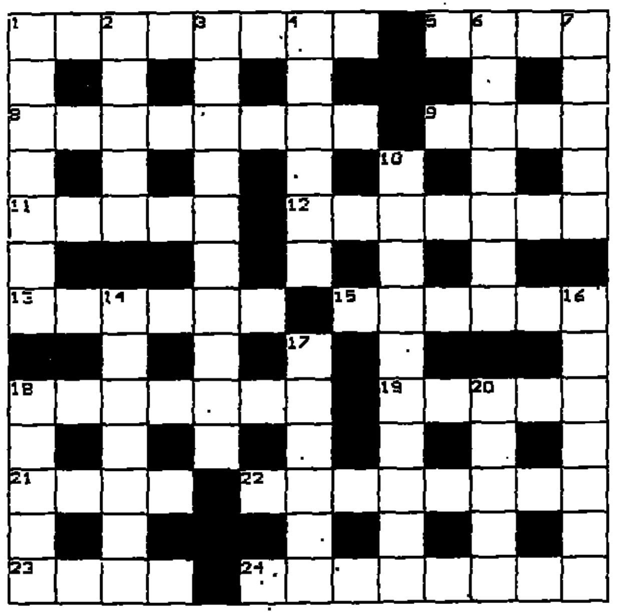
While I do not expect a flourish from England, I expect confidence, with the probability of a low-scoring draw or, optimistically, a narrow victory.

Pressure on Irish, page 44
Germans wary, page 44
Scotland at ease, page 44

Shearer: retained

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 597



ACROSS
1 *Barrister's rooms* (8)
5 Rapid, low engine sound (4)
8 *View: (hostile) manner* (8)
9 Chief Norse god (4)
11 Curt (5)
12 Wilkie —, *Moonstone* author (7)
13 Hat: seedling cover (6)
15 Lawn game (6)
18 Bewilder (7)
19 In worse health (5)
21 Frost; — *of the Ancient Mariner* (4)
22 Deprived of escape (8)
23 Suspend (4)
24 *(Written) supplement* (8)

DOWN
1 Without order (7)
2 Place of sacrifice (5)
3 Wife (joc.) (6,4)
4 Demote; subjugate (6)
6 Roman emperor, had wall built (7)
7 Group of species (5)
10 Loyalty (to superior) (10)
14 Team afloat; San Remo (anag.) (7)
16 Slavery (7)
17 Type of shoe, bags, Movement (6)
18 Covered entrance (5)
20 Glaring, violent, shocking (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 596
ACROSS: 1 Mangle 5 Rob Roy 8 Long 9 Cock-eyed 10 Fillet 12 Kick 15 *Virginia Woolf* 16 *Pelt* 17 *Danube* 19 *Opposite* 21 Beam 22 Blithe 23 Motley
DOWN: 2 Aborigine 3 Gag 4 Exciting 5 Rock 6 Break down 7 Ode 11 Lights out 13 Celebrate 14 Day-dream 18 Fine 20 Pal 21 Bit

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD NO 592
In association with BRITISH MIDLAND

ACROSS: 1 Kamikaze 5 Hull 9 Lincoln 10 Derby 11 Bath 12 Toenail 14 *Endows* 16 Lloyd's 19 Postage 21 Gust 24 Stroke 25 Carlyle 26 Rill 27 Hymn-book
DOWN: 1 *Kyle* 2 *Manna* 3 *Know-how* 4 *Zenith* 6 *Unready* 7 Loyalist 8 Edge 13 Despiser 15 Despoil 17 Leg-iron 18 Tetchy 20 Aver 22 Say-so 23 Seek

1st **PRIZE** of a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic or international network is J Tierney, Caldy, Merseyside. 2nd **PRIZE** of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND'S domestic network is D Rowell, Winchester, Hampshire. *All flights subject to availability.*

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Murphy's delight at his return to race riding is clear as he is led into the winner's enclosure at Chepstow yesterday

Murphy returns in style

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

AFTER the accident 17 months ago that nearly cost him his life and looked sure to end his career as a leading National Hunt jockey, Declan Murphy yesterday experienced a "dream come reality" as he made a winning return to race riding at Chepstow.

Murphy, 28, was accorded a hero's welcome after making all the running on Jibereen in the Annual Flat v Jump Jockeys Challenge to complete a remarkable comeback from his fall from Arcot at Haydock Park on May 2 last year.

Murphy, who suffered a fractured skull and was on a life support machine for four days after the accident, in which he was pitched under the hooves of the horses racing behind, was elated. "I have achieved some good victories but nothing has meant as much as this," he said.

"It's everything I dreamt of since my accident. I have never been on a cloud as high as this. My plans are to try and remain on that cloud for the next couple of days. It is a dream come reality. I could ride 500 winners in a season and it would not mean as much as this."

The seven-furlong race yesterday was on the Flat, but his first experience of riding over jumps since his fall is likely to take place before the week is out. "I would like to think I will be somewhere on Saturday — on a horse," he said.

Although Jibereen had been unplaced in his six starts this season and carried top weight yesterday, it is an adage that jockeys making an emotional comeback, or having the final ride of their career, often finish up in the winner's enclosure — to the delight of all concerned.

As Murphy cantered down to the start, punters were not slow to latch on to that unusual form pointer and backed Jibereen from 11-2 to 3-1 favourite. Geoff Lewis, the trainer, was under no illusions as to the possible outcome. "If Jibereen is back to his best, he is a steering job," he said.

So it proved. Murphy quickly had his horse running alongside the favoured stands' rail and poached an early lead which never looked like being assailed. "It's one of those things that happens," Lewis said with a smile. "Fancy having a jockey as good as him being able to claim a 5lb allowance. He could give a few of them 5lb."

Not surprisingly, given his experiences, Murphy speaks as a changed man. "The reality of it is I am 28 years old and I may be able to do this for another seven or eight years," he said. "The thought of that is amazing and words do not describe it. It is such a privilege to come out and perform like that. We take so much of life for granted; when you go through what I have gone through, you appreciate it so much."

As lines of punters formed to collect their winnings, the only people who might have disagreed yesterday were the bookmakers.

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Samoans confident of dismissing Wales

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

GRAHAM LOWE, the coach of the Western Samoa rugby league side, remains confident that his team can reach the semi-finals of the Halifax World Cup at the expense of Wales, notwithstanding the availability of Jonathan Davies for the countries' decisive group match at Swansea on Sunday.

The Wales captain sustained mild concussion in a tackle during the 28-6 defeat of France on Monday night in Cardiff, but suffered no ill-effects. "I felt the hip bone of one of the French players crack against my face," Davies said. "I was a bit wobbly, but feel fine now."

Lowe was an interested bystander at Ninian Park. His Samoan side meet France there tomorrow. "We hope to catch the French a bit fatigued. We have a similar task as them because we have to play Wales just three days after our first game," he said, "but, as I've told the players, if we're good enough, we'll make it, and if we're not, we won't."

Of France, Lowe said: "They seemed more disciplined than in the past. Often, they just crumble under pressure, but that wasn't the case on Wednesday and the scoreline flattered Wales. They scored some good tries but the French finally succumbed to the sheer weight of possession and field position against them."

Meanwhile, Wales have escaped punishment for mistakenly fielding one more than the four permitted substitutes against France, a confusion which has prompted a warning by Maurice Lindsay, the tournament director, to all teams to heed all rules relating to permanent and blood-bin substitutions.

Greg McCallum, the world cup referee's director, studied a video of the match, that confirmed that the extra substitution involved the return of Allan Bateman, from the blood-bin, to replace the injured Davies. Paul Harrison, the Rugby Football League spokesman, said: "It was thought by the Welsh management and officials that Jonathan Davies was leaving the field under the blood-bin rule. The actions of Bateman returning to the field were of accidental rather than deliberate."

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Graf misses Brighton tournament in wake of tax inquiry

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

STEFFI GRAF, who has been questioned over her father's imprisonment in Germany for alleged tax evasion, has withdrawn from the Brighton international tennis tournament next week and is unlikely to play competitively again before November.

Graf, who is ranked joint No 1 in the world with Monica Seles, was given a late wild card to the tournament, which begins next Tuesday and which she has won six times, but the top seed then decided to return the invitation.

"I don't think that she will play again until Philadelphia in early November," Peter Danckert, Graf's lawyer, told a German sports news agency. The event in Philadelphia starts on November 6.

Graf, 26, has not played since beating Seles in the final of the United States Open championships in New York last month. She has said that she will reduce her tournament schedule because of a chronic back condition.

Peter Graf, her father and manager, is in custody for allegedly failing to report $35.2 million (about £23 million) of her earnings over several years. Graf was questioned at length by investigators last week.

Prosecutors have denied reports that Graf faces arrest and Danckert said that he expected the case against his client to be dropped soon. "I am convinced that the proceedings against Steffi will be stopped by the end of the year," he said yesterday.

George Hendon, the tournament director, had asked the Women's Tennis Association for an adequate replacement to be summoned even before Graf's withdrawal. He had requested that Monica Seles and Arantxa Sánchez Vicario be put on stand-by.

The odds on them appearing, however, are negligible. Seles has been told by medical advisers to rest her damaged knee for at least another fortnight and Sánchez Vicario, complaining of fatigue, is away "somewhere" on an extended holiday.

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